

OSWESTRY & BORDER CHRONICLE



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Thousands expected at festive weekend

OSWESTRY will welcome thousands of revellers for its busiest weekend of the year.

Roads will be closed on both Friday night and Saturday morning for a series of events.

Friday night sees Christmas Live, organised by Oswestry Town Council.

Stalls will fill Cross Street and Bailey Street for a Christmas market while a giant fun fair will set up in Church Street.

Street entertainers and musicians will also bring a festive flavour to the occasion, which starts at 6.30pm.

Mayor, Councillor Gareth Jones, said: "A synthetic ice rink is located on Festival Square open to the general public after 7pm. This was introduced a few years ago and has become an outstanding success."

To complete the celebrations there is a massive firework display at Cae Glas Park.

On Saturday crowds will return for the Borderland Rotary Club Christmas procession.

Oswestry's streets will be lined with hundreds of onlookers as more than 40 floats and other vehicles wind their way through the town centre.

Seven years ago the parade was in danger of folding because just two or three floats were taking part.

● Carnival fever - Page 26

Pair facing corner shop robbery case

TWO people have appeared in court in connection with an armed raid on a shop on Saturday.

Jamie Watkiss, 28, of Lees Road Oswestry, and 30-year-old Angela Colohan, of Abbots Place, Oswestry, appeared before Shrewsbury Magistrates on Tuesday.

They faced charges in relation to an armed robbery in which a shop worker was threatened by a man wielding an air rifle and what appeared to be a metal rod.

They face charges of robbery at Morda Bank, Morda, and having a firearm with intent to commit an indictable offence. Both were remanded in custody to appear at Shrewsbury Crown Court on December 8.

Plea to traders over A-board 'danger'



Councillor Margaret Chamberlain, Mr Roger Whitting and Councillor Paul Milner near a correctly positioned A-board

PEOPLE with disabilities are calling on retailers in Oswestry to think about where they place their advertising A-boards on the pavements.

Members of the market town's Access Group say that some traders place their boards across the pavements blocking the path of not only those in wheelchairs and on mobility scooters but also people with pushchairs and prams.

Yesterday (Wednesday) two members of the group talked about their near misses on Oswestry's crowded pavements.

Town Councillor Margaret Chamberlain, 80, who has to use a mobility scooter to get around town, is a founder member of the Access Group which formed in the 1990s.

"We have been campaigning for many years to ensure A-boards don't hamper people with mobility problems getting around Oswestry," she said.

"There is always a danger that when you are trying to negotiate an A-board your wheels can fall off the edge of the pavement and into the road. That happened to me recently. Luckily the scooter didn't fully tip over and I didn't fall off."

Chairman of the Access Group, Mr Roger Whitting, 57, from Monkmoor, Oswestry, said he had seen his wheelchair scrape along the side of a bus in a near miss.

The social media expert who suffered spinal injuries in a freak accident said he understood how important A-boards were to businesses.

"Some, such as the one placed outside the Vaults pub in Church Street, are placed thoughtfully and as close to the building as possible. But other traders are not so thoughtful and the A-boards can cause real problems."

Another town councillor, Paul Milner, is backing the Access Group's plea and wants traders to think about where they are putting the boards.

"We do understand that people have to advertise and that A-boards are really important to businesses. No-one wants to see them disappear."

WORRIED PATIENTS MOVE OVER BORDER

PATIENTS are moving from Mid Wales to Shropshire in a bid to get better health treatment, a health study has found.

Concerns have been raised in the Mid Wales Health Study that people living in the Welshpool area are so concerned about treatment for patients from Wales at English hospitals that they have moved over the border.

The study found that people in Montgomeryshire are concerned they will be denied access to certain treatments and medication if they are living in Wales but treated at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital or Princess Royal Hospital, Telford.

Robert Robinson, Welshpool Town Council clerk, told health experts from both sides of the border that while patients from Mid Wales are happy with the level of care they receive, they

Report by Andrew Morris

are concerned that they will miss out on certain treatments when treated in England.

The town council carried out the Mid Wales Health Study to find out patients concerns in the region ahead of a shake-up of health services across Shropshire known as Future Fit.

At the unveiling of the report at Welshpool Town Hall this week, Mr Robinson said: "There were some people who had moved to Shropshire because they were worried about the effect of them coming from Wales."

"In fact one of the bigger concerns was people from Wales getting denied access to certain treatments because of what side of the border they live on."

Adrian Osborne, communications director for the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospitals NHS Trust, said he felt patients needed to lobby politicians to ensure that wasn't the case.

He added: "I think we need to lobby our councillors and politicians to make their voices heard when it comes to different treatment

across borders. Devolution is a big issue at the moment and getting the governments' to agree on priorities when it comes to health care is a tough subject. I can't see them agreeing on it personally."

Mr Robinson added that the study, which heard 417 case studies from patients, found that it is vital accident and emergency services remain in Shrewsbury.

He said: "Simply from the transport side of things, it is absolutely vital that A&E services remain in Shrewsbury. Getting to Telford from this area can take a whole day and in some areas such as Foel, near Llanfair Caereinion and other areas you would actually struggle to get public transport to and from Telford in one day."

"There has been talk of a single site A&E in Shropshire with smaller A&E style units elsewhere. If that happens, then I think there needs to be one in Welshpool serving Mid Wales."

The study also warned that if the A&E department is moved to Telford it could result in the loss of lives.



Robert Robinson

Runner hits her £53,000 target

RECORD-BREAKING marathon runner Amy Hughes is finally looking forward to putting her feet up after reaching her massive £53,000 fundraising target.

Amy ran 53 consecutive marathons during August and September to bring in money for the Isabelle Lottie Foundation, which supports the families of children with brain tumours.

She managed to raise £35,000 by the end of her runs and has been doing extra events, including a Halloween half marathon around Oswestry, to boost her fundraising.

On Friday Amy, from Cabin Lane in Oswestry, held a final party and auction with prizes including spa packages, signed football shirts and Manchester United tickets to bring in the final cash needed to reach her target.

The event was held at the Lion Quays, where she works.

She said: "I am so incredibly happy and proud to announce that we smashed the £53,000 target on Friday night."

"I really wanted to reach my target by Christmas and it's definitely the best early Christmas present for me and Izzy's foundation."

"Thank you so much to everyone that came on Friday night and helped raise a massive £3,500, taking us to a total of £53,500."

Fire sparked by drying tea towels

A ROAD was closed to allow firefighters to put out a blaze in a flat - caused by two tea towels drying in an oven.

Neighbours raised the alarm after smoke alarms went off in the flat in Willow Street in Oswestry at about 6.20pm on Monday.

The road was closed to allow the fire engine to reach the scene, and police diverted traffic.

The flat was heavily smoke-logged but no-one was hurt.

Tea towels drying in an oven could have led to a serious fire, firefighters in Oswestry have warned.

Crews from Oswestry were quickly on the scene.

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PICTURE PREVIEW



Sandy Best and Marilyn Taylor sold handmade items at the Made in Borders craft fair – pictures Page 9

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Group planning visit to help poor street children

Report by Pam Kingsley

A SOCIAL events group from Oswestry will be doing a different sort of outreach next year as it heads to Montenegro to build a shelter for street children.

The PurpleFish project, run by Hope Church in Oswestry, has been holding events throughout this year to raise money for the overseas project.

Now it is asking for people to join in with a trip to eastern Europe to see where the money raised is going and to build an outdoor shelter.

The group will go to Bar, Montenegro, from March 28 to April 5 and is inviting other people to join them.

VJ Lonsdale, who runs PurpleFish, said: "There is a group of people who work with street children to teach them numeracy and literacy skills, but as they don't have a place to do this it's very weather dependent. We've been raising money, through our various events, to build an outdoor shelter with benches and tables where the children can sit and write, do their lessons."

"These families are excluded and discriminated against by the rest of society. They find it almost impossible to get jobs and they are forced to beg or rummage through garbage heaps to find scraps of food or clothing."

"Their homes are shacks without electricity and sometimes without clean water. It is a very unsafe, unclean and unhealthy place for children to grow up. The children are often unable to go to school as it's more beneficial for them to do the begging for money, food and clothing."

The trip will cost about £400 per person which includes a £100 deposit. Contact VJ Lonsdale on 07964 726407.

Robert Robinson, town clerk, said: "There will be fancy dress in three categories to be judged at the Tourist Information Centre at 6.30pm. At 6.40pm the parade, which will include Newtown Youth Marching Band and the fancy dress competitors, will walk from the TIC to the town hall, for Father Christmas to address the crowds at 7pm."

The switch-on will then be followed by live seasonal music from Four Tissimo, a brass quartet, while Father Christmas will move into his grotto at the indoor market at 7.15pm, which is free of charge. Mr Robinson said the following day, the town will be transformed into a winter wonderland for its annual Winter Festival.

Players put a spin on Sleeping Beauty



Danielle Box and Phil Sumners in rehearsal for Sleeping Beauty panto by the Oswestry Musical Theatre Company

PANTO magic comes to Shropshire later this week as the Oswestry Musical Theatre Company presents Sleeping Beauty, with a modern twist.

A young cast will bring to life the story of the princess put under a spell by a wicked fairy.

And Danielle Box, who plays Sleeping Beauty, said the panto writers had put a modern day slant on the story.

"Although it is a very traditional pantomime, there are parts that are set in the present so that the audience feels part of the story," she said.

The musical theatre company is also promising a real pantomime all round

evening, with value for money merchandise so that children can join in the fun.

The panto will be held on at The Marches School tomorrow at 7.30pm, Saturday at 2.30 and 7.30pm and on Sunday at 2.30pm.

Danielle said: "We will have toys like pretend swords so that the children can help the Prince to reach the Princess and glow sticks that are similar to the special charm that the Princess wears."

"There will be reasonably priced refreshments and also the cast will be more than happy to pose for photo-

graphs with them free of charge if parents have their cameras with them."

Danielle, 21, said this year the musical theatre company was showcasing its younger members although there were also several long serving people in the production.

Verity Jones who plays the Prince is 12 while Will Evans, the king, is 17 and Bekah Brown, the queen, is 23. Tom Napier, as Lumpkins, is 19.

"However, our oldest cast member is 83," she said.

Tickets are available from www.omtc.ticketsource.co.uk or by calling (01691) 652091.



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Tributes to man killed in crash

A DRIVER who was killed in a crash on the A483 has been named locally as Peter Oleszkiewicz.

Mr Oleszkiewicz, who lived and worked in Wrexham, died after his Peugeot 307 was involved in a collision with a heavy goods vehicle on the A483 between the Halton roundabout, near Chirk, and the Ruabon junction.

He has not officially been named by police, but friends from both Poland and Wrexham have left messages of condolence on Mr Oleszkiewicz's Facebook page.

The 30-year-old worked for Arla Foods in Wrexham.

North Wales Police has appealed for information about the accident which happened just before 6.15pm last Monday.

Anyone with information should call 101.

New phone line to pay the bills

RESIDENTS in Powys can now pay for a range of services by phone following the launch a payment line.

The new automated telephone payment line has been unveiled by Powys County Council to help residents pay for a range of services.

Councillor Phil Pritchard, the authority's cabinet member for customer services, said: "The services allows people to pay for services such as council tax, rents, business rates and other sundry debts by phone using a credit or debit card."

Castle's history to be revealed

THE next meeting of the Oswestry & Border History and Archaeology Group will be on December 12 when members will hear stories about the family which built Chirk Castle.

David Burton is a former house manager at Chirk Castle, which Roger Mortimer is thought to have begun building in 1295.

The talk is in Oswestry's Memorial Hall, Festival Square, at 7.30pm.

New plea made over parking changes

WELSHPOOL Town Council is going back to the Welsh Government's road agency in a bid to get parking restrictions deferred in Mount Street.

The council's planning committee heard that the matter was out of the hands of Powys County Council and is going back to Welsh Government asking for a special case to be made for Mount Street.

Powys Council has recently started enforcing parking restrictions on the street following a complaint from a member of the public, sparking a petition signed by 272 people being delivered to council leader Barry Thomas by Councillor Ann Holloway.

The Welsh Government told the town council that a complete parking review of Powys towns was taking place and no changes would be made until that was complete.

But Councillor Graham Breeze urged the Town Council to ask for restrictions to be eased until the review was completed.

"It is totally unfair on the residents and business owners that tickets are now being served when they have been able to park there for years," he said.

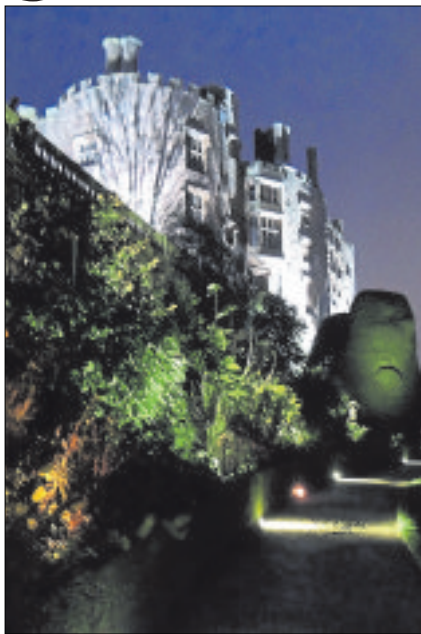
"We need this decision deferring until the full review is complete."

Train expert to give talk

STEAM train expert Philip Hosken will be visiting Oswestry next week to give a World War One-themed talk on steam on the Western Front.

The talk has been organised by the Cambrian Heritage Railway and will take place at Oswestry Station building on December 6. It starts at 4pm for 4.30pm. Tickets £3, or £1.50.

Magic moments as castle gardens light up in style



Historic Powis Castle is illuminated for the weekends



How goes your garden glow – the ancestral home of the earls of Powis is a picture at this time of the year

FESTIVE lights with a difference are being turned on at Powis Castle, Welshpool, this weekend.

The medieval fortress will be lit up as part of the National Trust's annual illuminated garden event.

Visitors can wander along the magical terraces and see the castle floating above a sea of colour. The gardens, from the yew trees and hedges to the statues and ironwork gates are lit up.

The illuminated garden event will run on Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 5-9pm with the last entry at 8pm.

Tickets cost £5 for adults £2.50 for children and entry is free to National Trust members.

Ruth Scutter, events and marketing as-

Report by Sue Austin

sistant at Powis Castle says: "The event started last weekend and feedback from visitors has been really positive. Everyone is really excited to see us running a new and exciting event this Christmas. We've had families visiting as well as couples, groups of friends and lots of photographers so it's great to see such a good turnout.

Judging by the response on our social media pages, visitors have loved every moment of it and they have taken some great photos so hopefully it'll become a regular in our festive calendar."

The illuminated gardens are not the only draw to the castle at weekend.

Ruth said that visitors had taken advan-

tage of both the shops' late night opening to do a spot of Christmas shopping. "As well as the Courtyard Shop selling local products and National Trust gifts, this year we have been very excited to see the launch our Christmas Shop.

Kath Pollock, retail manager said: "Our Christmas Shop is selling everything anyone needs for a magical Christmas whether that's decorations, gifts, cards, wrapping paper and even responsibly sourced Christmas trees. I think people are just enjoying leaving the hectic high street in favour of a more personal shopping experience."

Both shops are open daily 11am-3pm and 11am-8pm during the illuminated garden event. The cafe is also open until 8pm on the illuminated opening days.

Powis Castle began life as the medieval

fortress of the Welsh princes of Powys, who held onto their kingdom despite the threats of their more powerful neighbours in Gwynedd and England.

In 1587, Powis was sold to Sir Edward Herbert who created the romantic long gallery which is richly decorated with the coats of arms of his ancestors.

The first Marquess of Powis was forced into exile in 1668 due to his loyalty to the deposed King James II.

In 1784, the marriage of Lady Henrietta Herbert and Edward Clive, son of Robert Clive, founder of the British Raj in India, combined the Powis and Clive estates.

In the early 20th Century, the 4th Earl of Powis and his wife, Lady Violet, redecorated much of the castle and brought the garden back to life.

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New water supply leaves a bad taste in the mouth

Report by Sue Austin

IT has cost £4 million – but continues to leave a a nasty taste in the mouths of people in and around Oswestry.

Severn Trent has turned on Oswestry's new water supply with the switching on of the reservoir, off Broomhall Lane.

It says the move will help reduce levels of chlorine in the water that has led to complaints from people about the taste of the supply coming from their taps.

But it will not mean a return to the softer water that the town had before 2003.

Complaints over the water began in 2003 when the water company switched its water supply from the old, Llanforda reservoir, which collected water from the Berwyn Mountains, to an underground pipe from the Shelton waterworks in Shrewsbury.

Customers said that not only was the new supply so hard it would fup up electrical appliances it also tasted both hard and also chlorine filled. Some have even resorted to buying bottled water.

A petition with hundreds of signatures was sent to the company in 2005 calling for changes and Severn Trent altered the amount of chlorine in the supply.

More recently it announced a £11.2 million investment in North West Shropshire including new pipes, blending the water and the new reservoir.

Sarah-Jayne O'Kane for the company, said: "We're committed to developing our service to Oswestry and the North West Shropshire area and our £11.2 million investment in the area is making good progress."

"Part of the work is a £4 million investment to construct a new covered service reservoir, benefiting a number of areas in rural North West Shropshire."

"We're happy to say that the new reservoir has now been built and we've done the final testing and some work to connect the reservoir into the local network. Water from the new reservoir is now serving homes. The new reservoir, which holds four million litres of water, will provide greater security for the supply of water to residents of Oswestry. It will also help to reduce the levels of chlorine in the water, further improving its taste."

Oswestry Councillor, Martin Bennett, said it was good to see that the security of the water supply being protected and also the undertaking that the chlorine levels should settle down.

"There have been many complaints about the chlorine taste," he said.

"It is another piece of the infrastructure in place to keep Oswestry as Shropshire's second town. But it is such a great shame that we can not go back to the soft water that we had pre-2003."

The fast track programme, run by the College of Policing, will equip successful candidates with the skills, knowledge and experience to advance from police constable to sergeant and up to the rank of inspector within three years – a progression which ordinarily takes six years or more.

West Mercia Police and Warwickshire Police are looking for ambitious graduates, serving special constables and employees of the police service to join a fast track accelerated promotion and development programme.

West Mercia's involvement follows the revelation last week that it is behind with its recruitment of officers.

The force was urged by its crime commissioner Bill Longmore to take urgent steps to speed up the recruitment process.

West Mercia and Warwickshire, which have a formal sharing arrangement, announced in May that 140 new officers would be taken on, but around 100 of the vacancies are still to be filled.

Mr Longmore said cutbacks within the force, which is trying to save £30 million between April 2015 and 2018, had affected some parts of the service worse than others and there had also been a high and unexpected number of retirements.

He also said he was frustrated with how long it was taking to recruit new faces.

The fast track programme, run by the College of Policing, will equip successful candidates with the skills, knowledge and experience to advance from police constable to sergeant and up to the rank of inspector within three years – a progression which ordinarily takes six years or more.

Traders sign up for event



Back, from left, Andrea Lewis, Teresa Jones, Shaun Sheppard, Claire Fugill, Sue Watts and Richard Edwards. Front, from left, are Michelle Carnell and Sarah Allen.

SMALL businesses have signed up to take part in this weekend's Small Business Saturday.

The event was set up originally in America to encourage people to shop locally in the lead up to Christmas.

Now it has spread to Britain, and among those getting behind this Saturday's event are traders in Oswestry Indoor Market.

Rosie Radford, who runs Radfords Fine Food, said traders wanted to raise awareness of what could be found by shopping locally, whether in the market or in the town's shops.

"With internet shopping and the arrival of Black Friday, when giant retailers slash their prices, we would urge people to support their local traders," she said. "People can buy a totally unique present if they shop in the market, whether it is a Christmas hamper, a Welsh produce or vintage presents and Christmas decorations."

One of the market traders, Gemma Bentley, said she started Gemmipops craft shop four years ago this month and going into business for herself is something she has never regretted.

The 29-year-old said: "I work harder than I have ever worked in my life, I may not have the best income in the world, but my quality of life is wonderful and I am happier than I have ever been."

She said a market stall was a perfect starting point for small businesses.

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Benefits cheat spared jail term after claiming £6k

Report by Andrew Morris

A BENEFITS cheat has escaped an immediate jail term after admitting falsely claiming more than £6,000.

Deborah Lazarus, 52, of Brynmelyn, Llynclys, near Oswestry, was given a four month jail sentence, suspended for two years at Shrewsbury Magistrates Court.

Lazarus, who claimed housing benefit and council tax support, failed to report to Shropshire Council that her husband had returned to paid work after a period of sickness.

That meant that between December 3, 2010 and June 6, 2013, she benefited from more than £6,000 she was not entitled to.

20mph zone could be set up in town

Magistrates told Lazarus, who admitted the two charges against her, that she had robbed the local community of funds that genuine claimants were entitled to and that her own ill health did not justify her failure to comply with her responsibilities as a benefits claimant.

In addition to the suspended sentence, Lazarus was also given a probation supervisory order for 12 months and she was also ordered to pay £400 towards the council's costs. She will also be liable to pay back the money she was not entitled to.

The prosecution has led to Shropshire Council reminding housing benefit and council tax support claimants of their statutory duty to promptly notify the council's benefit service of changes in circumstances that might affect their entitlement to these benefits.

Jessica Taylor, benefits manager, said: "From this case, while £6,047.87 overpaid benefit related to the specific offence period, a total of £6,305.01 had been claimed when the claimants were not entitled to this money."

"It is the responsibility of people claiming housing benefit and council tax support to declare any income or capital to the council plus any subsequent changes to their circumstances."

"Where people fail to do this, the council will investigate the matter and will require the money to be repaid. We will not hesitate to prosecute where this is appropriate."

Councillor Mike Owen, Shropshire Council's cabinet member for resources, finance and support, added: "I hope this sends a clear message to others that fraudsters will be caught and punished."

"This is not a victimless crime, as fraudulently-claimed benefits take money out of the pockets of every hard working taxpayer, as well as the people who genuinely need support to make ends meet."

"I strongly urge all claimants to provide the benefits service with accurate claim information at all times."

New lodges win accolade



Owners Keeta Thomas and partner Cosmo Lloyd with staff in the background

A HIDDEN part of Oswestry is being discovered by holidaymakers from across Britain and beyond.

The Woodland Lodges at Henlle Hall, has won the highest award from holiday firm Hoseasons in their first 12 months of business.

Now owner, Keeta Thomas, is hoping to open three more lodges in the spring following the success.

Miss Thomas said the lodges have been awarded the prestigious Diamond award by Hoseasons for quality and customer service. She said: "We were thrilled to have won the award from Hoseasons and we feel it is testament to the hard work which has gone into business over the last year."

"We had only been open for 12 months

and so to be recognised so quickly was wonderful. We have three luxury lodges, all with own private hot tubs, with another three in the process of being built - these will be ready for February 2015."

Miss Thomas said the business was based around individuality with guests given VIP treatment, from slippers and bathrobes in the lodges to being able to see to any special requests.

"We started our holiday business by restoring buildings at Henlle Hall to provide holiday cottages and these have proved so popular we decided to build the lodges," she said.

Miss Thomas said the lodges had attracted customers from across the UK and abroad.

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BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

Village life in the borders is changing forever as the shutters go up on more and more pubs, and while campaigners may be fighting to save their local, pure economics mean they will surely lose the battle.

Real life is no longer how it's still portrayed on soaps such as Emmerdale, where everyone's life seems to revolve around a trip to The Woolpack. A combination of high costs and changing lifestyles has hit the pub trade where it hurts most – in the till.

Villagers across the region have been shouting loudly when the doors closed and pleading with owners to keep their 'local' open – but these are the very people who failed to support their landlords when they were in business.

The days of thriving village pubs, full of local characters and ringing tills have long gone. Now it's rare to find a village local not depending on a busy kitchen to keep the bank manager happy.

So who is to blame, or is it simply a change in lifestyles? You can point a knowing finger at greedy breweries, constantly upping their rents as soon as a tenant's books start to show a profit. Or crafty supermarkets selling alcohol at rock bottom prices and encouraging people to drink at home.

Or is it that we no longer need a meeting place where we can chat over a glass of ale?

Centuries ago people mostly met through their local church to collect the gossip of the week until the public house took over. There were dozens in both Oswestry and Welshpool and every village had a thriving inn.

Today we talk on-line. Everywhere you look people are following into mobiles or tapping out texts and with developments such as Skype there's no real need to leave your armchair.

All this means that the rate at which British pubs are closing down has accelerated to 31 a week. The peak closure period was between January and June 2009 when 52 pubs ceased trading every week, and there are now less than 55,000 pubs left.

Campaigners are forlornly calling for a change in the law to make it harder for pubs to be demolished or converted to supermarkets and convenience stores. Why would anyone stay open to make a loss?

The campaign for real ale group Camra is battling for stricter planning rules to be required before a pub is demolished or converted to another use. Shouldn't they be running a high profile media campaign encouraging people to visit their local pub?

The simple facts are that lifestyles have changed forever, accelerated by drink-drive rules, the smoking ban and cheap supermarket booze.



Sue Dewhirst was supported by friends when she organised a sponsored row in aid of CRY



Matthew Dewhirst died from an undiagnosed heart condition during a fitness training session



Chris Dewhirst tucks in during a cakeathon at Ellesmere College in memory of Matthew

WORKING FOR YOU



Glyn Davies MP

I return to one of the most important issues that will face the people of Montgomeryshire and North Shropshire over the next few years. How do we reconfigure the NHS hospitals that serve us in a way that delivers an acceptable sustainable service? I have been involved in discussions about this challenge for around 15 years. It is now coming to a head.

Across the UK, we are currently involved in public discussion about how to reorganise the NHS to make it fit for the future. The huge increase in demand has put the NHS under great financial pressure. The Coalition Government has increased the NHS budget by level of inflation throughout the current Parliament, and the Chancellor has just announced a further £2 billion every year. The position in Wales is even more difficult because the Welsh Government has not maintained the Welsh NHS budget, resulting in longer waiting and, shockingly, patients being left in pain for longer.

The problem is that we have a Shropshire hospital structure designed for the past, and which will collapse in the future without reform. In Montgomeryshire, we do not have a major hospital, so have a particular interest in Shropshire hospitals, which have served us. Ensuring Montgomeryshire's voice is heard is one of the most important responsibilities I have. The Shropshire NHS is becoming unsustainable. Reform is inevitable. At present there is a long list of ideas for reform in Shropshire. It will become a shorter list sometime in early 2015. The principle underpinning this reform will involve creating one 'emergency centre' and several Urgent Care Centres (UCCs). The 'emergency care' centre is likely to be at Shrewsbury, Telford or on a new site west of the Shrewsbury Bypass. The second key part of this change will be the development of 5/8 Urgent Care Centres in Shropshire. It's my opinion that there should be an UCC in Montgomeryshire. I hope everyone involved in delivering NHS care on the Welsh side of the border can agree on the best way forward. Access to good NHS care in the future depends on it.

Campaigning couple give backing to heart project

PAM KINGSLEY reports on a couple's continuing work to raise awareness of undiagnosed heart conditions

A MOTHER whose rugby-mad son died during a fitness training session is backing a new campaign unveiled by the Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY) charity.

The campaign includes a film following a teenage boy on the rugby pitch in the moments leading up to his sudden collapse on the field.

Sue Dewhirst, from St Martins near Oswestry, said it was difficult for her to watch the new film, but she hopes it will help warn other families of the condition.

She said: "Watching this film was really, really tough for my husband Chris and I but I am very proud to be part of this campaign that CRY is driving forward to tackle the issue at grass roots level in sport.

Devastated

"Matthew's death absolutely devastated our family - and our entire community.

"Like so many of the parents and partners who have been so tragically affected by sudden cardiac death, our first question was 'Why?' How could our extremely fit and healthy boy suddenly go? Most young people play some kind of sport.

"These deaths are indiscriminate and to have such a hard hitting initiative is just what we need to ram the message home.

"Life will never be the same for us again but our thanks go to CRY for giving us this opportunity to achieve something in Matt's name."

Unlike most other families, Matthew



Chris and Sue Dewhirst are continuing to fundraise in memory of their son

had symptoms for nine years, which have now been recognised as warning signs prior to his death, aged 17. He collapsed and died during a training session in July 2012.

Mrs Dewhirst said: "Year after year he had been passing out on the rugby pitch, only to be told every time by the emergency doctors that it was either stress, migraine or dehydration and that you only had to look at him to know that there was nothing wrong with his heart.

"I don't blame anyone for what happened, even though it was suggested that I complain about the advice we'd been given. What's the point, he wasn't coming back. So I did what I usually do, go into organising mode."

Mr and Mrs Dewhirst started fundraising and holding various events to pay for the cost of staging heart

screening days. Among the events was a rowing event at the Mere in Ellesmere while a cakeathon fundraiser was also held at Ellesmere College in Matthew's name.

Mrs Dewhirst said: "I was determined that Matthew's death wouldn't be forgotten and that others would know why he died so that it would raise awareness and stop other families being ripped apart as ours had been. In my mind the message is clear - just be aware. If your child, husband, partner is displaying heart symptoms, then get it checked out and don't let it be dismissed.

"If, like the majority of teenagers and young people, there are no symptoms, then please consider having cardiac screening, which is nationally available through CRY's screening programme."

Sport itself does not cause young sud-

den cardiac death but intensive physical activity - particularly endurance sports such as rowing, football and long distance running - can exacerbate an underlying condition. The campaign sets out to emphasise the importance of cardiac screening amongst young people aged 14 to 35 and the need for unexplained symptoms such as fainting, blackouts and palpitations to be explored appropriately and not dismissed.

Dr Steven Cox, CRY's director of screening said: "The death of a young person is heart-breaking and devastating for any family.

"It is therefore essential that anyone with a potentially fatal heart condition knows about it and, if necessary, takes the appropriate steps to avoid putting their life at risk.

"This could include medical or surgical treatment or caution when taking part in some sports or when taking specific medications.

"We believe screening needs to be extended to all young people.

Risk

"Although screening will not identify all those at risk, in Italy, where screening is mandatory for all young people engaged in organised sport, the incidence of young sudden cardiac death has been reduced by around 90 per cent."

David Lynch, who wrote and produced the new film, said: "We were inspired to make this film and to work with CRY due to my knowing someone who was helped by the charity.

"We know the ad is very high impact but the experts at CRY have gone to great lengths to ensure that their bereaved families have been forewarned about the content. We felt we had a responsibility to make this as realistic as possible to ensure CRY's messages were delivered powerfully and effectively."

• To watch the new film visit www.cry-org.uk and for more information about screening in your area visit www.testmyheart.org

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Q: I haven't seen my young daughters for almost three years because their mother became so obstructive about my seeing them after her new partner moved in. I was going to go to court and get an order so that she couldn't prevent me seeing them, but then they stopped the legal aid and I couldn't afford to.

I felt so low after the marriage break-up I just gave up. Now I want to build a new relationship with my lovely girls but I'm worried about what it might cost to get an order. Is there any way at all I can get financial help?

A: There may be no legal aid available to go straight to the courts but there is still a substantial pot of legal aid available for mediation. I would therefore suggest you make an appointment with a family lawyer who is qualified in mediation.

If mediation fails you can then make an application to the court for a child arrangements order. Both you and the children's mother would have to attend the first appointment and there is usually a Court Welfare Officer available at Court who would interview you jointly to ascertain whether an agreement can be reached without taking the matter further. If an agreement is not possible the District Judge will give directions as to the future conduct of the case, but the Court will try to encourage the parties to reach an amicable agreement so that the matter can be concluded at the first hearing.

Under new legislation that came into force in October this year, both parents are now legally considered to play an equally important part in their children's lives and guidance to the courts is to presume that, unless there is hard evidence to the contrary, a child will benefit from a relationship with both parents.

Further information relating to this question is available from Anne Davies, a Senior Solicitor with GHP Legal.

For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194 or visit www.ghplegal.com

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Deflation We should not put up with this Time for the UK to give up on union

THERE is an illusion of national house prices increases caused by the influence of London prices.

The reality is that if you take London and the south out of the equation then house price inflation in the remaining 70 per cent of the country is minimal if not non-existent and that includes Shropshire.

It was assumed that London price increases were symptomatic of inflation in the economy whereas in fact it was very concentrated speculation by very few individuals that drove prices on an almost street by street basis.

In reacting to this wrongly perceived danger a number of measures were introduced and suggestions of things like the mansion tax were made.

A combination of these measures and the perception of falling demand based on these measures has brought about the spectre of deflation. Given that counties like Shropshire have been hovering on the verge of deflation anyway any push in that direction will prove disastrous.

The answer has to be a broader perspective on regional needs.

We need infrastructure projects to boost our economy, or else. But most of all we need to realise that London and Shropshire are not the same and will react differently to credit control measures.

ROBIN LLOYD
Ellesmere

Leader has challenges

WITH a great deal of the national press and others going for character assassination of Labour leader Ed Miliband, have Labour been stuck with another Gordon Brown?

The personality of a piece of dried fish!

Or do they want a grinning used car salesman like Blair?

They better make their mind up soon.

Is Ed's brother waiting in the wings to take the mantle of power?

We'll wait and see.
JOHN R BROWN
Shrewsbury

THE savage increase in Britain's membership fees to the EU indicates the fiscal incompetence of this failed union and questions ought to be asked.

Why are we paying £55 million to Brussels every single day when the EU has failed to produce acceptable accounts now for almost 20 years?

Such a situation would not be allowed to happen in general commerce anywhere in the world.

Why have we signed up to the European Arrest Warrant?

This warrant does not recognise 'innocent until proven guilty' nor 'trial

by jury'? Why are we accepting any fiscal orders from a union whose currency has been on its knees for over six years?

A union whose economic experts are clueless at finding a solution to the problem.

A union whose economic experts caused the problem themselves by leaving member countries with no room for financial manoeuvring - a fiscal safety valve required by any currency!

Why did we sign up to the Working Time Directive which is ruining our

health service? Which buffoon allowed mass immigration into our tiny island?

Any fool could see the problems it would and has caused by the movement of every crook in Eastern Europe.

The EU is a failed concept, the euro a failed currency - neither can be propped up and bailed out indefinitely.

Our dignity demands that we leave the EU and rise or fall by our own efforts rather than being dictated to by obvious amateurs we have not elected.

BOB WYDELL
Oswestry

Tremendous topiary at post office



Just look at those trees outside Pant Post Office of yesteryear. This postcard, loaned by collector Ray Farlow of Bridgnorth, was posted in 1906 at Llanymynech. It was posted to HR Hands Esq of Kenilworth.

Give your time to aid campaign

THIS year while I'm writing my Christmas cards, I will also be adding to my list a person I've never met or even spoken to.

That person is Liu Ping from China who Amnesty International is taking action for because she has been imprisoned for being a member of a peaceful organisation that seeks to expose corruption and help the weak. She was sentenced to six and a half years in prison, and has been tortured and denied medical care.

I would encourage all readers to get involved in Amnesty's Write for Rights campaign this Christmas. Just visit: www.amnesty.org.uk/write

ANN BARTLES-SMITH
Amnesty Shrewsbury

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Readers' Letters,
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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Don't fall for any of this propaganda

THE CBI tell us that it is "overwhelmingly in Britain's interests to remain in the EU".

At the same time Jean Claude Juncker, new president of the EU Commission is accused of creating a Machiavellian tax haven for big EU based international businesses in his former role as prime minister of Luxembourg.

We also find out that the CBI receives EU (taxpayers) funding to help load the dice, as indeed does our own supposedly impartial BBC. This is all part of a deliberate EU programme to infiltrate and control "civil society". In other words, taxpayer funded propaganda to brainwash the masses.

JONATHAN CARR, Baschurch

God gives us the love we enjoy

ANIMALS act according to their instinct, we have a choice and a conscience.

Why do doctors and nurses choose to go to Sierra Leone to care for Ebola sufferers?

Some people live purely selfish lives, looking out for themselves, family or tribe. Their only hope is for this present life and the material benefits it provides. This is where all the wars and killing originates.

Others have chosen a lifestyle of love. Where does this love come from? It's not natural instinct, it comes from God who created us like himself. He is not a dictator, we are free to choose what we do with the life he has given us.

RON JONES
St Martins

HIV threat to our NHS

FOR years the NHS has treated everyone who comes to the UK for free.

These people with HIV will, according to the BMA, cost the British taxpayer over their lifetime £1 million each.

Now Labour politicians are suggesting putting up our taxes to pay increased amounts to fund the NHS. I would feel very bitter about that. The NHS is on its knees, and while charging non-British people for treatment wouldn't solve all the problems, it would help. Our NHS should be renamed - the World Health Service.

J MCCARTHY
Telford

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Hospital Trust is top in in-patient survey

OSWESTRY'S hospital trust has been named the best in the UK for its food and cleanliness following a survey of 600 patients.

The CQC in-patient survey was carried out at the orthopaedic hospital in Gobowen with patients who had been treated at the hospital last year asked to give their opinions on the cleanliness of the hospital and on the food, care and considerations to privacy and dignity they received during their stay.

Revealing the results at a trust board meeting, Phil Davies, facilities manager at the trust, said the hospital had also carried out its own survey in

April this year which matched the results of the CQC survey.

The CQC survey showed patients gave the hospital a score of 98.3 per cent for cleanliness, compared with a national average of 88.8 per cent, putting it at the head of the rankings. The trust's own survey showed a 98.88 per cent satisfaction rating.

In the area of food, the CQC survey again rated the hospital as the best in the UK with 81.7 per cent satisfaction, well ahead of the second placed trust which had 74 per cent. The trust's internal survey had a 90.68 per cent rating. Mr Davies, said: "We received

very good feedback on the food and the cleanliness of the hospital. We have high standards and we have invested in new deep cleaning equipment in the past year.

"When we asked the patients in our own assessment to write a statement about the hospital, they said it had exceptional standards of cleanliness and that patients are treated with dignity and respect and are well supported by staff and the facilities.

"Patients are full of praise for the care they receive and the caring atmosphere."

Shock as figures reveal the extent of fuel poverty

SHROPSHIRE has one of the highest amounts of people living in fuel poverty in the country, new figures have revealed.

In Shropshire there are 19,572 fuel poor households, which makes it 13th worst out of the 152 local authorities in England.

The data was released by Age UK as part of its Warm Homes campaign against fuel poverty, warning 24,000 older people could die because of the cold.

by Nathan Rowden

Farmers are warned to lock up fertiliser

FARMERS across Shropshire and Mid Wales have been urged to lock away fertiliser as police continue to tackle terrorist threats.

Officers say fertiliser has been used to make explosive devices for years and that those involved in using, storing or making the product should ensure it doesn't fall into the wrong hands.

Shropshire NFU has supported the move and said the farming community had a duty to help keep Britain safe from terrorists.

A campaign has been launched by both West Mercia and Dyfed Powys police, aimed not only at farmers but also buyers, agricultural contractors, hauliers and merchants. Deputy Chief Constable of Dyfed Powys, Dave Thompson, said: "We are making sure that those who handle fertilisers understand how they can help us to prevent a terrorist attack through simple security measures.

Sarah Faulkner from Shropshire National Farmers Union said: "We are aware of the risks and we would urge farmers to continue to be vigilant - and to report any suspicious activity to their local police or national counter terrorism hotline on 0800 789321."

However the figures include all households, regardless of their occupants' age.

They were worked out based on the household income and someone is classed as 'fuel poor' if they would spend so much of their earnings to heat their home it would leave them below the poverty line.

Shropshire also has had 1,740 excess winter deaths between 2002 to 2012, making it 96th out of 126 local authorities. This is the ratio of extra deaths from all causes that happen in the winter months compared to the average of the number of non-winter deaths of the same period.

Caroline Abrahams of Age UK, said: "No older person should worry that they could die from the cold in their own home.

"Fuel poverty is a national scandal which has claimed the lives of too many people for far too long and left many more suffering from preventable illness. We want a permanent solution and we believe it is within our grasp, if there is the necessary imagination and political will."

Age UK say one of the main causes of cold homes in the UK is poor insulation, and the UK has some of the worst levels of home energy efficiency in Europe.

It says with proper insulation and energy efficiency measures, the charity says nearly all homes in the UK could be made warmer.

Age UK estimates this could cut energy bills by £400 a year for the average home, and save some of the £1.36 billion that cold homes are estimated to cost the NHS each year.

Santa to help raise money for hospice



Lynsey Kilvert, area fundraiser for Hope House, and Jeff SANTA will be spending time in a pub restaurant this advent as he helps to raise money for charity.

A magical grotto will be opened at The Highwayman, Shrewsbury Road, Oswestry, every Saturday until Christmas between 3pm and 5pm.

Children will be able to visit Santa in his grotto for a £4 donation to Hope House Children's Hospices.

In return, children will be able to pass on their Christmas wishes to Santa and will receive a gift bag and the opportunity to have photos taken.

Santa will also be on hand to enjoy breakfast with children on Christmas Eve before setting off to deliver presents throughout the night. Breakfast with Santa costs £5 including gift bag and photo opportunity.

Jeff Potter, Highwayman manager, said: "Christmas is a time for sharing and what better way to get into the festive spirit than to raise monies for such a worthy cause."

Booking is recommended for the breakfast to avoid disappointment. Call (01691) 652632.

Creative group has hopes to inspire

A CREATIVE group for people with mental health problems which was set up 20 years ago is hoping to inspire a new generation following a rebrand.

The Project Group started in a smoke-filled room in the heart of England in the 1980s.

More than 20 years later, the Oswestry-based group has been re-named Designs in Mind and produces public art commissions and unusual products for retail.

Catherine Wilks, social business

manager, said: "It started with a room full of 'mad' people, people who suffer from mental health problems and therefore needed to be 'protected'. The management of the day centre took on the role of parents and treated them like their children.

"Then I was asked to go in to entertain the group with creative activities, arts and crafts.

"I couldn't see any mad people behind the smoke, but there were lots of individuals with lots of potential who

together could create beautiful things. I had no intention of running an arts and crafts class, but instead The Project Group was born.

"Now we've re-branded as Designs in Mind. Essentially we provide a creative environment for individuals in touch with mental health services to achieve at their own pace."

Designs in Mind held a Christmas studio sale on Wednesday where some of the art produced by project members was on show.



Sandy Best and Marilyn Taylor sold hand made fabric items at the Made in Borders craft fair



Wendy Unwin from The Gates Gift Shop in Oswestry helped to organise the Made in Borders craft fair held at St Oswald's Church Centre

Craft fair a success

DOZENS of people snapped up hand made Christmas gifts at a craft fair in Oswestry

The Made on the Borders fair was held at St Oswald's Church Centre and attracted craftspeople from across the area.

Organiser Trish Brunt said the event was very successful.

"It went really well and everyone was really happy," she said.

"Everything was unique and we had all sorts of interesting items on sale.

"It was the seventh fair we've held, but it's

Report by Pam Kingsley

the last for the moment. Both myself and Wendy Unwin from The Gates in Oswestry are finding that trying to organise it, we just don't have enough time. We're not sure what we'll do next.

"There's the possibility of one on the Bailey Head outdoor market next year with the town council, and we'll maybe do one next Christmas."

More than 20 stalls were set up in the centre selling hand made and fairtrade gifts from jewellery and textiles to quirky Christmas decorations and jams and pickles.

Local musician and music teacher Patrick Gough and some of his students provided a musical backdrop as they performed a selection of piano recitals. And festive refreshments of mince pies, cakes and seasonal soup were served up to visitors.

Money was also raised for the Wales Air Ambulance through a raffle, which brought in £125. Prizes were donated by the stallholders and compiled into goody bags for the winners.

Sandy Best, from Oswestry, who was selling hand made fabric items, said: "It went really well. The morning was brilliant with lots of people there."



Trish Brunt was one of the organisers of the successful Made in Borders fair which gave people a chance to pick up hand crafted Christmas presents

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Slavery worries are highlighted

POLICE officers in Mid Wales have been raising awareness of modern slavery during a two-week campaign.

Dyfed-Powys Police officers hit the streets to talk to residents about what modern slavery could look like and how to report any suspicions to the force.

Detective Chief Inspector Steve Crockwell, said issues such as child trafficking, forced labour, sexual exploitation and domestic servitude were examples of slavery in modern day Britain.

He said: "Modern day slavery can take place in any part of the UK, and there have been a number of recent examples in the news of it happening in Wales." To report suspicions call police on 101.

Voluntary group looks for members

A GROUP which gives advice, support and assistance to older and disabled people across Mid Wales is appealing for volunteer board members.

Care and Repair Powys helps people aged 60 and over to adapt or maintain their homes.

Karen Kelly, director, said: "Members are asked to attend six daytime board meetings per year in Llandrindod Wells. The positions are unpaid but reasonable expenses will be met."

Anyone interested should call (01597) 825754.

Tourism group will stage annual meeting at castle

Report by Andrew Morris

BUSINESSES from across Mid Wales will gather in Welshpool for a tourism organisation's annual meeting and forum.

The Mid Wales Tourism organisation will hold the event at Powis Castle tomorrow (Friday).

The meeting will also see the launch of Show Me Wales Trails, which encourages visitors to Wales to park their car and travel by rail, bicycle or on foot in a new sustainable transport and tourism initiative.

Featuring three of Wales' most scenic railways - Conwy Valley Line, Cambrian Lines and Heart of Wales Line - the Wales Coast Path and national walking and cycling routes, Show Me Wales Trails aims to make it easier for visitors to identify accessible things to do and places to visit and stay in towns and villages.

A new app, Wales Trails, is now available to download. The project has been led by Mid Wales Tourism.

The group represents around 600 tourism and hospitality businesses across Powys, Ceredigion and Meirionnydd.

Funding partners are Visit Wales, Cambrian Rail Partnership and the former Tourism Partnership Mid Wales.

Two new directors representing the tourism industry in Powys will be appointed at the meeting and a Life Membership Award will be bestowed upon Julian Burrell, OBE, in recognition of his service to tourism in Mid Wales. Mid Wales Tourism's chief executive Val Hawkins will outline the organisation's achievements this year. And she will outline plans for 2015 followed by an open discussion about trends, opportunities and challenges facing the tourism industry in Mid Wales next year.

Reminder on new food law

FOOD businesses in Welshpool are being urged to get ready for a new rule which will affect the way they provide allergen information.

Powys County Council's Trading Standards Team want businesses to be ready for when the allergen information rules come into place.

Free awareness training will be provided.

Currently, when places like supermarket bakeries, delis, cafes and restaurants sell loose foods, they do not have to provide information to customers about food allergens.

But from December 13, all food businesses will need to verbally explain or signpost allergenic information for the food they sell or provide.

For more information call (01874) 623420.

Call to halt power line plan



Jonathan Wilkinson is demanding the route is scrapped

CAMPAIGNERS have demanded controversial plans to connect wind farms in Powys to the national power supply in Shropshire to be brought to a halt.

National Grid plans to build a 400kv electricity line between a proposed substation at Cefn Coch, near Welshpool to Lower Frankton, near Oswestry.

It is holding a new round of consultation events into its planned Mid Wales Connection Project.

But Jonathan Wilkinson, leader of Montgomeryshire Against Pylons, which is fighting the plans, said he is demanding the proposed route is scrapped.

He said: "I had a very civil 90 minute chat with Jeremy Lee, project manager for National Grid and demanded that he brings a halt to the Mid Wales Connection Project right away."

But Mr Wilkinson said Mr Lee told him National Grid will continue to move ahead with the plans.

Dog mess campaign launched by council

A SOCIAL media campaign to encourage dog owners in Welshpool to clean up after their dogs is now under way.

Twitter users are being encouraged by Powys County Council to tweet a picture of their pet using the hashtag #allcleanedup.

Councillor John Powell said: "We all know that there are people out there who don't clean up after their pets but equally there are many people who do and we've started this campaign to celebrate them and their pets and to bring to account those members of the public who flout the rules."

"It also gets people talking about the problem."

"Hopefully we'll see fewer people in the future being irresponsible and not cleaning up."

The councillor added that the council will also take action against irresponsible dog owners.

"Only last month a dog owner in Foel, near Llanfair Caereinion, was given a £75 fixed penalty notice by the council's environmental health team after a member of the public reported the incident," he added.

"With the information that the member of the public provided, the council issued the fixed penalty notice."

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Weapons amnesty was a big success

THE police force which covers Oswestry says a two-week gun amnesty was a success.

More than 400 weapons were handed in to police in the two weeks – including 119 in Telford and Shrewsbury – as part of a firearms “amnesty”.

The campaign in the West Mercia and Warwickshire Police force areas gave anyone with a gun a fortnight’s grace from the start of the month to hand it in without repercussions.

Nearly 300 people handed in a total of 436 weapons, with 71 handed in at Shrewsbury Police Station and 48 at Malinsgate in Telford.

Superintendent Charles Hill, who led the campaign, said all of the weapons had now been made safe and most would be taken away to be cut up and melted down.

Rare weapons or those with historical value could be donated to museums, he added.

The officer said: “We have been overwhelmed by the public response to this campaign and we’d like to thank every person who has taken this opportunity to surrender a firearm for us to dispose of safely.”

“It is great to see that there are so many people as committed as we are to making our region even safer and protecting people from harm.”

Traders urge shoppers to spend their money locally

TRADERS across Oswestry will be celebrating this weekend as Britain holds Small Business Saturday.

Among those taking part will be traders from the town’s indoor market who are themselves all small businesses.

One of the market traders, Gemma Bentley, 29, said she started Gemmipops four years ago this month and it is something that she has never regretted.

She said: “I started Gemmipops straight out of university and I had so much help and advice from my lecturers.”

“They suggested the Princes Trust which was brilliant and I also had a lot of support from the Shropshire Enterprise Trust.”

“If anyone finds themselves in the situation I was in they I would say to them, give it a go.”

“I work harder than I have ever worked in my life, I may not have the best income in the world, but my quality of life is wonderful and I am happier than I have ever been.”

She said a market stall was a perfect starting point for small businesses.

She said: “The market is just one of my outlets, I also sell to stores and go to craft fairs, but it is my main outlet and my base. It is a wonderful place from which to run a small business.”

“The rent is not a huge

amount and you don’t have to tie yourself in to a long lease like you would if you had a shop unit.”

Rosie Radford, who runs Radfords Fine Food in the Oswestry Indoor Market, said traders wanted to raise the awareness of what could be found by shopping locally, whether in the market or in shops in the town.

She said: “With internet shopping and the arrival of ‘Black Friday’ when giant retailers slash their prices, we would urge people to support their local traders.”

“People can buy a totally unique present if they shop in the market, whether it is a Christmas hamper, a Welsh produce or vintage presents and Christmas decorations,” she added.

Small Business Saturday UK is the organisation behind the movement.

Organisers say the national initiative is a grassroots, non-political and non-commercial campaign.

By Sue Austin



Traders at Oswestry get ready for Small Business Saturday. They are, from left, Andrea Lewis, Sarah Allen, Teresa Jones, Shaun Sheppard, Sue Watts, Michelle Camell, Claire Fugill and Richard Edwards

NEWS IN BRIEF

Further railways worries voiced

POLITICIANS from North Wales have joined Shropshire residents in calling for two early morning train services which serves Chirk and Gobowen to be saved from the axe.

Arriva Trains Wales is proposing to remove the 7am Shrewsbury to Wrexham service and the 7.47am Wrexham General to Birmingham International service.

North Wales Assembly Member Mark Isherwood and Wrexham County Council’s lead member for environment and public protection Councillor David Bithell have sent letters to Arriva to raise their concerns.

Councillor Bithell said he wanted to express “our strongest objection to the removal of these services”.

Have a cuppa with your copper

RESIDENTS of Chirk and the wider community are being asked to take up the chance of having a ‘cuppa with a copper’ this month.

Police officers will be in the community room at the Glyn Wylfa Cafe in Chirk between 3pm and 4pm tomorrow (Saturday).

The officers will also be available for a chat at the cafe between 2pm and 3pm on December 15 and 2pm to 3pm on December 22.

Police Community Support Officer Dean Sawyer said it was a chance for residents in the area to get advice or to speak to a police officer face-to-face.



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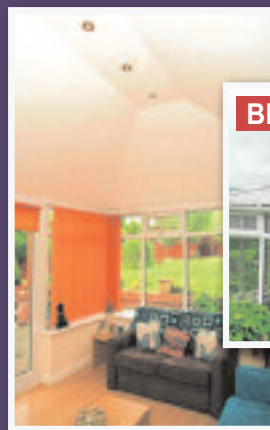
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Town festive season is now in full swing



Hundreds turned out for the Oswestry lights switch-on and traders hope the festive spirit continues

HUNDREDS of people turned out to see Oswestry's Christmas lights switched on this year - and now town traders are hoping the festive spirit carries on all the way through December.

The next big event is tomorrow's (Friday) Christmas Music Live event, organised by Oswestry Town Council. And on Saturday the town centre will play host to the annual Christmas

Advertising Feature

parade and dozens of floats are expected to take part in the celebration. Visitors will also have a chance during the celebration to enjoy the great service available from the town's many retailers.

Organisers of the festive events say the celebrations will help bring in shoppers to the town.

Oswestry Town Council events manager David Clough said the cele-

brations were important to the town and the authority was pleased to play a key role in helping to bring shoppers into the town. He said: "Our event portfolio gets stronger each year and always includes a market element."

"We now have annual continental markets, a huge annual food festival and also an antiques market for the first time in 2014."

"The events themselves are essential to increase footfall and to make Oswestry the place to visit for a great shopping experience."

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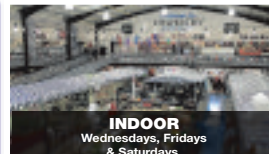
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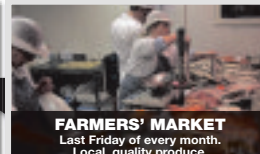
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Collie dog goes missing on farm

TWO brothers have been left devastated after their collie dog went missing from their farm.

Richard and Gwendolyn Wilde, from Aethnen, Llanfechain, had become attached to the one-year-old collie called Bob, who used to be their constant companion around the farm.

But the dog went missing on November 14 and their father, Geoff Wilde, now fears he may have been stolen.

Mr Wilde has been searching constantly for the collie.

He said: "He is a working sheepdog and we were going to train him to help with the cattle. He is a very intelligent dog and I can not believe that he has just gone missing."

Anyone who has any information can contact Mr Wilde on (01691) 828412.

River bridge to close to traffic

A BRIDGE carrying a country road across the River Severn will be closed during the day up until Christmas for repairs to be carried out.

Hayes Lane Bridge at Crew Green will be shut to general traffic from Monday up until Christmas Eve while works are carried out.

Damage to both the downstream and upstream ends of the bridge will be repaired.

Access for pedestrians and dismounted cyclists will remain available at the bridge throughout the work.

Christmas treat idea wins support from community

By Sue Austin

PEOPLE in Oswestry need not face Christmas alone after an idea to provide an 'open house' lunch snowballed in a matter of days.

Gemma Cassin posted on Facebook the idea of providing a Christmas Day lunch in the town.

And over the next few days dozens of people offered support, from giving up their own Christmas day to cook and serve meals to donating items for the event.

Gemma, 37, who usually spends Christmas with her mum, sister and other relatives, said she had been amazed by the response.

She said: "I suggested to a friend that there ought to be somewhere for people on their own to go on Christmas Day."

"We put the idea on Facebook and the response was amazing. Within a couple of days we had 200 likes on the page, the offer of a menu, and pledges of meat and other items for the dinner."

"I had been talking to someone in a shop in Oswestry and they said they were not looking forward to Christmas as they would be spending it alone. It just got me thinking that there should be a community event that people on their own could go along to."

The Christmas Day lunch will be held at The Centre in Oak Street, between 10am and 2pm, after Jay Moore from Fusion Arts at the centre, contacted Gemma.

"Jay has been tremendous with all kinds of help as well as suggesting the venue," Gemma said. "Individuals and businesses are coming forward with offers of help. We will be holding a volunteers meeting soon to start putting a plan together."

She said that the Open House group was currently looking for someone experienced in catering who could head up a team of volunteers to prepare Christmas Lunch for about 50-60 people.

Anyone who feels they could help our who would like to go along to the Christmas Day lunch can contact 07539062297.

To book an appointment, or to find out where your nearest session is being held, visit www.blood.co.uk or call 0300 1232323.

Call for more blood donors

AROUND 4,000 blood donations are needed across the West Midlands over Christmas, health chiefs have warned.

A campaign has been launched to encourage people to give blood in the run-up to the festive season.

This year, as Christmas Day and Boxing Day fall ahead of a weekend, there are worries that fewer donors than usual will get around to making life-saving donations during the busy festive season.

Across the West Midlands, including Shropshire, there are more than 50,000 registered blood donors.

In total, about 210,000 whole blood donations and 12,500 platelet donations will be needed across England and Wales over the coming six weeks to help ensure that hospitals have the stocks they need to treat patients.

To book an appointment, or to find out where your nearest session is being held, visit www.blood.co.uk or call 0300 1232323.

Hamper joy for producer



Nick Lipson of Best Of Taste in Treflach

CHRISTMAS has come early for an artisan fruit coulis producer after landing a deal to supply a luxury hamper company taking on Harrods and Fortnum & Mason.

Strawberry coulis and jewelled fruits in Madeira made by Oswestry's Nick Lipson, of Best of Taste in Treflach, is part of Bodnant Welsh Food Centre's £250 hamper of Welsh produce.

The wicker baskets, packed with cheese, sparkling wine, brandy, whisky, fudge, chocolate, jams, pates, biscuits, teas and coffees, are proving popular for those searching for a taste of North Wales. They have already been snapped up by companies as Christmas gifts, as well as Welsh expats around the UK. Mr Lipson said he was delighted to be among the artisan producers involved with the hampers.

His wife Anne initially launched the company from the former snooker room of his family home and Mr Lipson took over following her death 10 years ago. "She was a real stickler for quality and she had a passion for good food," he said.

Students take part in army exercise

STUDENTS from Oswestry planning a career in the uniformed public services took part in a training session with the army at Nesscliffe Training Camp.

The Look at Life course saw students from Walford & North Shropshire College spend two days at the residential event.

During the visit, the students took part in the selection and training tests.

To add some realism to the experience, the students slept and ate "in the field" to have a taste of the hardships endured by military staff on operations and stayed in a realistic barrack block environment.

They also took part in classroom instruction and practical application of map-reading skills and undertook a variety of team-building activities and drill. They also used the electronic firing range.

Lecturer Steven Hunter, who arranged the camp with colleague Paul Shepard and the Shropshire Armed Forces Careers Office, said the course gave the students a realistic taste of life in the army.

He said: "Throughout the course they behaved in a manner which is compatible with military discipline and good order, the knowledge and experience gained supports a wide range of the units studied on their courses."



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Ann Trevor McCall, of Hodnet, near Market Drayton, had a history of severe lower back pain and had had an operation just days before she died.

She died at the hospital on April 29.

Mr John Ellery, coroner for Shropshire, ruled she had died due to a complication of surgery but found that everything had been done by health staff that was "reasonably possible".

The inquest heard Mrs Trevor McCall, Drayton Road, died from a pulmonary embolism due to deep vein thrombosis caused by becoming immobile after spinal surgery.

Her son Howard Trevor and husband Ernest McCall raised their concerns with medical professionals at an inquest held at Telford Register office.

Mr Trevor asked whether doctors should have administered chemical prophylaxis to prevent the pulmonary embolism.

Dr Jayesh Trivedi, consultant spinal surgeon at the hospital, said that he had made a "clinical decision" to use mechanical prophylaxis, in the form of foot pumps to stimulate movement, and that he had seen Mrs Trevor McCall's mobility improve after the operation. He added he would have given her chemical prophylaxis on the evening of the day she died if her mobility had not improved.

The inquest heard how health staff expected Mrs Trevor McCall to be able to recover and become mobile again following the operation.

Coroner Mr Ellery, said: "I do not say that this could have been easily prevented. Drawing all of this together, this elective surgery came with a risk. It was a recognised complication but it was very rare and this time it was fatal."

"I cannot and do not criticise the management, it was a matter of clinical judgment."

A firefighter checks the scene at Nesscliffe as Michael Keogh carries little Fenn to safety



Back together again after their dramatic cliff ordeal, Micheal Keogh and his dog Fenn

FIREFIGHTERS used ropes and harnesses to rescue a pensioner and his dog stuck on a rock face at a beauty spot near Oswestry.

Border terrier Fenn went missing during an evening walk in Nesscliffe – and was only found after a search by his frantic owner 14 hours later.

The dog had managed to clamber up the cliff during a walk and when owner

Report by Pam Kingsley

Michael Keogh tried to reach him he became stuck too. Both Mr Keogh and Fenn were brought down by a specialist team of firefighters using abseiling equipment.

Mr Keogh, of Back Lane, Bomere Heath, has spoken of his ordeal in Nesscliffe and praised the work of his rescuers.

The 67-year-old said: "We were walking around Nesscliffe near Oli-

ver's Point when she took off after a squirrel. I whistled her to come back but I suspect she tried to climb up part of the cliff and got stuck.

"My wife and I spent three hours looking for her, and then we put out an appeal on Facebook. We were absolutely worried sick about her."

"Someone offered to print some posters for us, so I went back in the morning at 7am to put these posters up and thought I'd just have another

up and thought I'd just have another look around. "Then I couldn't believe my eyes, but I saw a little head stick-

ing up on the cliff and she was there."

Mr Keogh, a retired soldier, tried to get Fenn down by himself but soon realised that it was harder than he had thought – and became stuck fast.

He said: "I was worried in case she'd want to try to move, but she was stuck. I tried to get to her but I couldn't quite get there, then I tried to get back down and realised that it was a bit tricky, so I thought I'd better stay there."

"The lads from Baschurch fire station came out and set about rescuing

Fenn and assisting me.

"When we got down I took Fenn to the vet to be checked over and they'd seen the Facebook messages, so they were really pleased to see she was OK."

Sandra Thompson, watch manager at Shropshire Fire Control, said the crew was delighted that yesterday's rescue had a happy ending but added: "Members of the public should consider their own safety before attempting any rescue of pets from dangerous situations."



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The new entertainment website for the West Midlands





Councillor Colin Case takes a look at the news school road markings outside the old school house in Ryton XI Towns



The road markings and in the background, the school that closed years ago

Gang gets it wrong

WORKMEN were asked to paint 'no parking' signs outside a village school near Oswestry. And the men believed they had done a great job – until they realised they had done the work outside the wrong building. The yellow zig-zag lines were placed outside a former primary school that has not heard the sound of children's voices for 13 years. The blunder came about in the small Shropshire village of Ruyton XI Towns. The gang were sent to draw up the safety markings outside St John the Baptist Primary

Report by Pam Kingsley

School on Church Street. But they instead descended on the former village school on Grug Hill, half a mile away and which closed in 2001. Michael Curley, 68, lives next door to the old school and shares a driveway with the property, which is now a home. He said he had seen the workmen painting white lines on the road but never imagined they would re-mark the old faded school signs. "I saw the chap painting the white line but didn't see the other work being done. I think

they were probably just doing what they were told and didn't think about it." Councillor Colin Case, chairman of the parish council and a governor at the village school, said the workmanship couldn't be faulted – but the geography left something to be desired. He said: "They are beautifully painted, a cracking job, just 400 yards in the wrong place. "I suspect the poor lady who lives in the old school now isn't as amused though." Claire Wild, Shropshire Council's cabinet member for highways and transport, said: "This was a genuine and unintentional error by our contractor."



Oops! Beautifully painted road marking but they're in the wrong place



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Dylan Thomas prepares for a broadcast



Andy and Celyn at the showing of the new film Set Fire to the Stars



Andy Evans producer and Celyn Jones co-director

SELLOUT AT SCREENING

Report by Pam Kingsley

A HOLLYWOOD film star, a film producer from Shropshire and a Welsh poet may sound like an unlikely combination for a hit film.

But a sold-out screening of *Set Fire to the Stars* in Oswestry proved that with the right people, anything is possible.

The black and white film tells the story of a week in 1950 when John Malcolm Brinnin, played by Lord of the Rings star Elijah Wood, invited infamous poet Dylan Thomas, played by Celyn Jones, to New York for a series of poetry readings.

Producer Andy Evans, who grew up in St Martins, near Oswestry, was back in his home town with Mr Jones for the special screening of the film at Kinokulture Cinema.

He said the screening was one of the most scary – but also exciting – of the film’s run so far.

“It’s really nerve-wracking because your mates are upstairs and it’s not *Iron Man*, it’s an arty film,” he said.

“It’s a bit scary but scary good. It’s the screening I’m most excited about because I vanished from Oswestry career wise and no-one knows what I’ve done. To see friends and family see what I’ve done, it’s very exciting.”

Following the screening the pair held a question and answer session with the audience, and then stayed afterwards to chat to people about the film.

Mr Jones said he was delighted with how well the screening had been received.

He said: “We’re in Andy’s home town and it’s sold out. We go to these incredible cinemas and we realise there is this appetite for independent cinema to see films that have a story, and what’s nice is we’ve been invited to go.”

Although Mr Evans said he didn’t know about Kinokulture before organising the screening, he said he is now keen to come back in the future.

Support

“I really want to support this cinema now I know it’s here and will try to do another question and answer here when the film is shown again next year,” he said.

Set Fire to the Stars was filmed in just 18 days on a shoestring budget, with Swansea doubling as New York and the crew chipping in to help wherever they were needed.

And with the cast and crew all staying in the same hotel and working the same hours, they quickly developed a camaraderie which extended off the set.

Mr Evans, said: “Elijah had 18 days and that was his window. After the first day, within 24 hours of meeting him off the plane, he was like one of the boys. It was all equal. He would want to do what we were doing, and he’d be asking where we were going on our day off. He’d be ‘let’s go to the pub’. There was no surprises for him and nothing fazed him.”

“I think if a diva had turned up this film wouldn’t have worked. We threw him in a lake on his first day, and it was on his birthday.”

“We were a bit worried to start with because it was his first day and we were putting him in this freezing lake and we couldn’t get the caravan trailer closer than 100yards away, and our biggest worry was we couldn’t get a towel to him.”

“He was just like don’t worry did it on the first take and then we went out for his birthday.”

Mr Jones, who co-wrote the script for the film as well as playing his dream role of Dylan Thomas, said Wood was great to work with.

“Elijah is great. You expect Hollywood to arrive and what you get is a very nice guy with a fag in his mouth and a box of records under



Part of the audience at the showing of the new film *Set Fire to the Stars* at Kinokulture cinema in Oswestry



Dylan Thomas is recognised as one of the greatest poets of the 20th century

his arm,” he said. “One thing you’ve got to say about the American stars is he’s really prepared. He’s up before anyone else and knows how the whole thing is moving and is word perfect. It’s just in him.”

“He knew nothing about Dylan Thomas, he was just drawn to the script and wanted to do something that people weren’t asking him to do. I think he’s fantastic.”

“The film is really all him.”

But it wasn’t only the filming which was condensed into a short period of time.

Mr Evans, said: “It’s bonkers when you think it was June last year when we started the process. On November 4 last year Elijah said yes, and November 7 a year later it’s in cinemas.”

“Elijah has been working in films since he was a kid and he said it was the quickest he’s ever done a film. But it wouldn’t have happened without us pushing it. We’re driven people

mad and we didn’t take no for an answer.”

Set Fire to the Stars will be returning to Kinokulture in Oswestry on January 2 and 3, and will be shown at the Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, on February 27. The DVD is expected to be released in March.

Dylan Thomas is recognised as one of the greatest poets of the 20th century, but alongside his undoubted artistic talent had a reputation for having a chaotic, alcohol-fuelled private life.

Born in Swansea on October 27, 1914, his father was an English Literature professor at the local grammar school and would often recite Shakespeare to Thomas before he could read. As a child he was fascinated by language, and at 16 he dropped out of school to become a junior reporter for the *South Wales Daily Post*.

In December 1932 he left his job to concentrate on his poetry full-time, and two years later, aged 20, he moved to London,

won the Poet’s Corner book prize, and published his first book, *18 Poems*. While living in London, Thomas met Caitlin Macnamara and the couple married in 1937. They moved back to Wales, settling in the fishing village of Laugharne.

During his lifetime Thomas wrote many acclaimed poems – arguably the most famous of which being *Do Not Go Gentle into that Good Night* – as well as short stories and the ‘play for voices’ *Under Milk Wood*.

Although he was appreciated as a popular poet in his lifetime, he found earning a living as a writer difficult.

As a result he started to take on reading tours and broadcasts, doing more than 100 radio recordings for the BBC during the late 1940s.

His first American tour, which is the visit portrayed in *Set Fire to the Stars*, took place in 1950, and he carried out more recordings such



Andy and Celyn had a question and answer session with the audience

as *A Child’s Christmas in Wales*. In October 1953 he started his fourth and final American tour in New York, performing his last speaking engagement at the City College of New York on October 29.

A week later, on November 5, he fell ill after a night of heavy drinking – reputedly boasting “I’ve had 18 straight whiskies – I think that’s the record.” He called a doctor but fell unconscious and was taken by ambulance to St Vincent’s Hospital. He never regained consciousness and died on November 9, 1953 at the hospital. A post mortem revealed he died of pneumonia.

His body was brought back to Laugharne where he was buried. His wife is buried in the same grave.

A plaque dedicated to Thomas was unveiled in Poet’s Corner, Westminster Abbey, in 1982.

Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

19
Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, December 4, 2014



Delightful cottage boasts valley views

Having superb views over the Ceiriog Valley, Bron Heulog, Castle Mill, Chirk, Wrexham, is an extended and renovated detached cottage. It is for sale through Halls at £350,000. It has an entrance porch with a slate floor, a reception hall with views, a WC, kitchen/family/dining room with free standing base units, Belfast sink with granite worktop, exposed wall and ceiling timbers and a tiled

floor, family dining area with French doors, a tiled floor and a wood burning stove on a slate hearth with oak mantle over and exposed timbers, utility room, inner hallway with steps to the master bedroom and steps down to the lounge with a feature inglenook fireplace with beam over housing a wood burning stove, exposed beams and timbers, a recessed area, study, master bedroom with

exposed ceiling beams, exposed roof trusses and a Victorian style open fireplace with cast iron surround and a raised hearth, a dressing room and en suite bathroom, first floor bathroom, inner landing, two further bedrooms, cottage-style gardens and grounds standing within the original Chirk Castle boundary. At the front is a outside dining and sitting area. Contact Halls on 01691 670320.



Generous family property with a price for quick sale

This well presented, modern, five bedroom house 5 Bryn Glas, Oswestry, on the market at £265,000, has been realistically priced for a quick sale and offers exceptional value for a growing family. With spacious accommodation over three floors including through lounge, dining room, refitted kitchen and utility, two en-suite shower rooms and family bathroom. The property also has gas central heating, double glazing, parking and double garage. Contact Monks on 01939 234368.



Newly renovated terraced home is now on the market

Woodhead Estates are delighted to present a three bedroom terraced house 72 York Street, Oswestry, to the market. It for sale with no chain. This property benefits from being newly renovated with two reception rooms, double glazing, gas central heating, utility area and enclosed rear garden. Viewings are highly recommended to appreciate this property's presentation, accommodation and location. The asking price is in the region of £124,950. Contact Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044.



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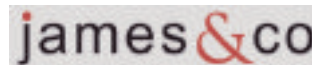
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Impressive five bed contemporary home in the country

A bespoke design and spacious five bedroom home near Welshpool offers a unique opportunity to buy a contemporary home with superb outlooks. Ochor y Bryn, Hope Leighton, was built in 2006 boasting sustainable and lifestyle features including underfloor heating. Agent, Clemmie Radcliffe of Balfours Property Professionals, says: "This is a beautiful and well thought out property." The property is two miles from Welshpool in unspoilt countryside. Ochor y Bryn is offered to the market with a guide of £750,000 for more information call Clemmie Radcliffe on 01743 353511.

Balfours
PROPERTY PROFESSIONALS



Substantial family house also has a very large garden

This substantial detached family home 10 Inglis Road, Park Hall, Oswestry offers five bedrooms and a large garden in a sought after residential area. It offers a master bedroom with ensuite bathroom and a further four bedrooms, three reception rooms, conservatory and luxury kitchen. It has a reception hall, dining room, sitting room/office, lounge, conservatory, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, cloakroom, first floor landing, master bedroom & ensuite, four further bedrooms, family bathroom, double garage, large gardens and communal paddock. It is for sale chain free and the price is £295,000. Contact Halls on 01691 670320.

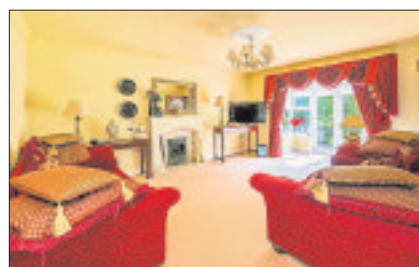
Halls
144



Large property comes with its own enclosed paddock

Plot 2, The Meadows, Nobold, Baschurch, priced in the region of £595,000 is an impressive, large five bedroom detached house which has been developed by Ricsan Properties Ltd. to a high standard of specification. It has gas central heating with zoned underfloor heating, double glazing, a high standard of insulation, oak flooring and doors and carpets. Good sized gardens and an enclosed paddock to the rear extending to about an acre in all. In a secluded, yet convenient setting beautifully combining a rural feeling overlooking open countryside. Call Miller Evans on 01743 236800.

MILLER EVANS
ESTATE AGENTS



Smart five bedroom house in a quiet area on the market

Number 28 Bentley Drive, Oswestry, is on the market with Woodhead Estates. This modern five bedroom detached double fronted house is in a quiet location. It has three reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, double glazing, gas central heating, two ensuite bedrooms, three bedrooms with fitted wardrobes, separate family bathroom, downstairs cloakroom, off road parking, detached double garage and an enclosed landscaped rear garden. Viewings are highly recommended to appreciate this property's location, accommodation and presentation. Offers in the region of £329,950 are being sought. Call 01691 680044.

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Oak Drive Oswestry £174,995

- A well positioned Detached Residential House
- Recently been rewired, re-carpeted and re-decorated throughout
- Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room
- Brand New Fitted Kitchen, Utility/Storeroom, Conservatory
- Three Good Size Bedrooms and Family Bathroom.
- Front and rear gardens, driveway providing ample off-road parking
- Gas fired central heating and majority double glazing. EPC Rating E



Jennings Road Oswestry £130,000

- A superbly presented Terraced House overlooking Brynhafof recreational fields
- Beautifully and sympathetically modernized by the present owners
- Retaining many original features
- Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen and Rear Entrance Porch
- 2 Bedrooms and a Family Bathroom
- Enclosed rear courtyard style garden with storage shed
- Gas central heating and uPVC double glazing. EPC Rating



Albert Road Oswestry £82,000

- A deceptively spacious 1 Bedroom Mid-Terrace Property with off-road parking
- Lounge, Kitchen, 1 first floor Bedroom and Bathroom
- Paved courtyard and outside storage shed to the rear
- uPVC double glazing and gas central heating. EPC Rating D
- This property should be of interest to first time buyers/investor purchasers.



Hampton Road Oswestry £225,000

- Well presented 3 Bedroom Link Detached Bungalow
- Lounge, Dining Rm, Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, Utility
- Master Bed with adjoining WC
- 2 further Beds & Family Bathrm
- Good size rear garden, garage & 2 driveways
- Double glazing and Gas C/H. EPC Rating D



Wingate Way Park Hall £35,000

- A new build 3 bedroom semi-detached property available on a Help to Buy Shared Ownership basis with shares ranging from 25 - 75%.
- Ent Hall, WC, Fully fitted Kitchen, Lounge/Dining rm
- 3 Bedrms & Bathrm. Large garden & off road parking. EPC 'B'
- Gas C/H and photo voltaic solar panel system.



Abraham Court Oswestry £121,500

- Well positioned 2 Bed 1st Floor Retirement Apartment
- Dual aspect windows overlooking communal gardens
- Ent Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, 2 Beds & Bathrm
- House Manager, Careline System, Resident's Lounge
- Laundry, Guest Suite & communal car park. EPC Rating B



Churchfields St Martins £139,995

- A spacious 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached Property
- The property was constructed approx 10 years ago
- Ent Hall, Living Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Utility, Cloaks, 3 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Drive & garage with good size rear garden
- Gas C/H and D/G. EPC Rating C



Prince Charles Road Oswestry £149,995

- A spacious and newly refurbished 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached House
- The property has been finished to a high specification
- A brand new fitted kitchen and bathroom, complete redecoration
- A new central heating boiler.
- Ent Hall, Living Room, Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms & Family Bathroom
- Good size front and rear gardens and a long tarmac driveway
- Gas central heating and uPVC double glazing. EPC Rating D



Ardmillan Close Oswestry £189,950

- Superbly appointed Detached House set within a popular location
- Ent Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen
- Sun Room, Utility, Cloakroom
- Three good size Bedrooms and a Family Bathroom
- Partial D/G & some secondary glazing, Gas C/H
- Generous front and rear gardens and off-road parking
- EPC Rating F

11 December Property Auction

2.00pm

@ the Lion Quays Hotel, Moreton Oswestry SY11 3EN

LOT 1 AUCTION

Southsea Guide Price **WREXHAM Over £55,000**

- Detached Residence
- Potential for Refurbishment
- Good Sized Rear Garden
- Two Reception Rooms
- Gas C/H, Double Glazing
- EPC Rating F
- Contact Wrexham Office

LOT 2 AUCTION

Oswald Road Guide Price **OSWESTRY Over £100,000**

- Investment property
- 2 two bed apartments &
- 1 one bedroom apartment
- Close to centre of Oswestry
- Gas fired central heating &
- Communal Garden
- Potential to develop basement into accommodation
- EPC Rating E, D and D
- Contact Oswestry Office

LOT 3 AUCTION

Trevor Guide Price **LLANGOLLEN Over £140,000**

- DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY
- Former garage site
- Extends to approx 0.57 acres (0.40 hectares)
- Outline planning permission for residential development
- Situated in the village of Trevor
- Fringe of the picturesque Dee Valley
- Close to the World Heritage Site of Pontcysyllte Aqueduct.
- Contact Llangollen Office

LOT 4 AUCTION

Dolywern Guide Price **LLANGOLLEN £65,000-75,000**

- Spacious One Bed Apartment
- Located in the Ceiriog Valley
- Part of a Conversion of the Former Mill
- Kitchen, Living Room, One Bedroom, Shower Room
- Courtyard and parking space for one vehicle
- EPC Rating 'E'
- Ideal First Time Buy or Investment
- Contact Chirk Office

LOT 5 AUCTION

Holt Guide Price **WREXHAM Over £100,000**

- Traditional Semi-Detached Two Bedroom Cottage
- Conservatory extension
- Brick Outbuilding
- Set in approximately 0.12 of an acre
- Potential for modernisation
- Contact Wrexham Office

LOT 6 AUCTION

Holt Guide Price **WREXHAM Over £100,000**

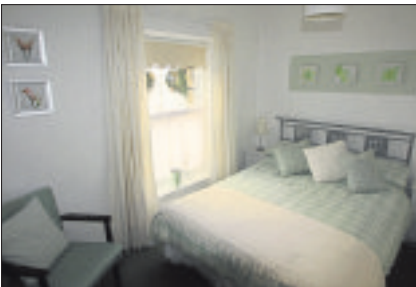
- Traditional Semi-Detached 3 Bed Cot
- Brick Outbuilding
- Set in approximately 0.12 of an acre
- Potential for extension, modernisation and refurbishment
- Contact Wrexham Office

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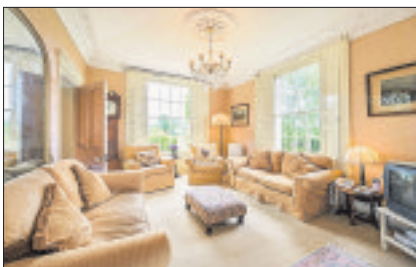
Charming property filled with lovely original features

Offered with no chain is a charming terraced cottage 2 Nascott Terrace, Glyn Ceiriog, is positioned in the heart of the Ceiriog Valley boasting many original features such as beamed ceilings and sash windows. There are two double bedrooms, bathroom, lounge and kitchen/ diner. There is a small rockery garden to the front whilst there is an attractive garden with sitting areas and lawned and shrubbed gardens. Located in Glyn Ceiriog, all local amenities are close at hand. It is priced at £89,950. Call Town and Country on 01691 679631.



Attractive extended cottage used to be two homes

Laburnum Cottage, Gwern y Brenin, Oswestry is an attractive extended cottage in a rural location just three miles from town. It is for sale through Balfours at £399,950. It has an entrance hall, sitting room, snug, kitchen/dining room, utility room, a conservatory, boot room, cloakroom, master bedroom with a balcony and en-suite, a shower room, family bathroom, three further bedrooms, a paddock, field shelter and garage. The period property was originally two cottages and has been extended to create a wonderful family house. Contact Balfours on 01743 353511 or visit www.balfours.co.uk



Rare opportunity to buy Georgian-style farm house

A stone drive leading to an impressive portico signals a rare opportunity to purchase this impressively appointed six bedroom Georgian-style farmhouse Gwernhafod at Gwern-Y-Brenin, Oswestry. It has an attached two bedroom annexe and more than 31 acres of pasture land, along with a collection of Dutch barns and separate large barn with planning permission. It is on the market with Woodhead Estates for offers in the region of £1.2m. Properties of the quality and appeal of Gwernhafod are rarely available and early viewing is recommended. Contact Harriet Fallon on 01691 680044.



Recently renovated bungalow is now on the market

Having undergone an extensive scheme of renovation 5 Old Chirk Road, Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, now affords immaculate accommodation ready for immediate occupation with the benefit of gas fired central heating and landscaped gardens with a rear seating area and gravelled terraces and level lawn. The detached bungalow includes a modern fitted kitchen and bathroom, two bedrooms, lounge and rear porch. It has open fields to the rear, an attached garage. It is on the market with for £159,950. Contact Morris Marshall and Poole on 01691 679595.



SOLUTIONS



Barry Clegg from Ifton Colliery Band who are based in St Martins



Barry Roberts from the Ifton Colliery Band



Oswestry's Tree of Light is switched on at Sainsbury's, Black Gate Street

TREE OF LIGHT SHINING



At the Tree of Light switch-on were the Ifton Colliery Band



The Coppice Singers from the Oswestry area performed at the switch-on



Mike Jones, Dai Davies and David Gordon



Rhian Davies, Judie Birchall, Nansi Davies (4), Bryn Davies and, front, Cadi Davies (9)

LEGENDARY Welsh goalkeeper Dai Davies was in town to switch on Oswestry's Tree of Light.

Dai Davies, who played for Wales, Swansea, Wrexham and Everton before retiring in 1985, joined dozens of shoppers for a festive evening on Saturday which included carol singing, mince pies and mulled wine.

The tree was put up outside the town's Sainsbury's store by Oswestry Rotary Club and the lights were turned on to the accompaniment of community carol singing led by The Coppice Singers and the Ifton Colliery Band.

It will be raising money for The Stroke Club, Special Olympics, Hope House, Riding for the Disabled, the Cricket Federation for People with Disabilities and other charitable good causes.

Jayne Middleton, from Oswestry Rotary

Report by Pam Kingsley

Club, said: "Christmas is a time to celebrate with loved ones, look back fondly over happy years and to remember those we have loved and lost.

"For many it can also be a time of sadness, when the loss of a loved one is most keenly felt, a time when we particularly remember those people whom we love but, sadly, see no longer.

"However, the Tree of Light is not only about remembering those we have lost. It is also about celebrating, a time to be glad and grateful for all of the gifts we have received and to remember how good life has been to us."

Anyone wanting to dedicate a light can fill out a form available at Paper Write in Church Street, the foyer of Sainsbury's and online at www.rotarycluboswestry.co.uk



Ian Harmer and grandson Thomas Parmhan, aged 5, from Oswestry

Authority is told of savings targets

POWYS County Council has achieved 73 per cent of its savings target, leaving almost £5 million to find within the last four months of the financial year.

But £1.116m savings have come through since the last update in October.

At a council meeting in March, the budget for this year was agreed and it included £17.576 million of savings.

At a recent cabinet meeting members were told that as of November 6, the council has achieved £12.83 million savings, £1.116m more than since the last report in October, representing 73 per cent of its overall target.

While some departments such as leisure and recreation and business services have already met their savings targets for the year, others such as recycling, corporate and unallocated and adults care still have to save £1,304,000, £1,821,000 and £1,034,000 respectively.

In the recycling department, the largest areas of saving that are still to be achieved relate to waste collection efficiency and fleet transformation but there is confidence that the overall target will be met by the end of the year.

In adult care, the majority of the remaining services are planned for the last part of the financial year.

Portfolio holder Councillor Darren Mayor said he accepted this presents a challenge and a degree of risk but he said the service area is closely monitoring progress and is confident the target will be met.

At the moment the budget is showing a projected overspend of £1.884 million by the end of the financial year.

The cabinet noted the content of the two financial reports.

Ebola alert at hospital is revealed

AN Ebola scare was sparked at one of Shropshire's acute hospitals when a patient attended an accident and emergency unit with symptoms of the deadly disease, it has been revealed.

Doctors feared the patient had contracted the virus, which has killed more than 5,000 people worldwide.

But further investigations showed the patient did not have the disease, health bosses told Montgomeryshire Community Health Council. It has not been revealed whether the patient attended the A&E unit at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital or Telford's Princess Royal, or when the patient was treated.

Around 14,413 cases and 5,177 ebola deaths have been reported by the World Health Organisation.

Newspaper delivery job

VACANCIES have arisen for people to deliver the Oswestry and Border Chronicle.

Delivery people are especially needed in the Oswestry and Gobowen areas at the moment.

Anyone interested in taking up the roles can contact Gerry Owen on (01691) 659200 for more details on the vacancies or for information on the rounds.

People need to be aged over 13 and the newspapers must be delivered by lunch time on a Saturday.

Message in a bottle hope for Adcote School girls

A TRIO of pupils from around the world took part in an unusual English lesson at their school near Oswestry when they wrote messages to put into bottles.

The 12-year-olds from Adcote School, Little Ness, were asked to write messages describing themselves and their experiences at the school.

The bottles will be cast into the sea off the Welsh coast, and the hope is that they will be found and replies sent back to the school.

Ukrainian Margaryta Solovei, Gabriela de Andres Martin from Spain, and Yangqing Li, known as Emma, from China, thoroughly enjoyed the lesson.

Gabriella said: "We are really hop-

ing that our bottles will be washed up on a shore far, far away and that we may make new friends who are interested to know more about Britain and our life as boarders at school.

"Adcote is such a beautiful, peaceful place and we love studying here.

"This is a fun way to let people know."

Included in the bottles are messages asking anyone finding one of the Adcote bottles to reply directly to Rona Roberts, the school's English teacher, to say where and when it was found.

Meanwhile a new chaplain has been appointed at Adcote School.

Reverend Lucinda Burns will be the school's Anglican chaplain, giving school assemblies, providing a listen-

ing ear to any of the school's 300 pupils, and also teaching personal, social and health education and philosophy lessons.

As part of her role Rev Burns will help develop the relationship between the school and the local community in her parish role, leading the churches of Ruyton XI Towns, Great Ness and Little Ness.

Her appointment as chaplain is part of a partnership arrangement with the local parish and the Church of England.

Headmaster Gary Wright said: "We are delighted to welcome Lucinda to Adcote and she is already making a very important contribution to life at the school."



The girls with English teacher Rona Roberts

Work to start installing new station footbridge

Villagers make funding plea



John Dyson from the Cross Keys Action Group outside the pub

Community is rallying around to save its pub

IT is an issue affecting dozens of small communities across Shropshire and Mid Wales - how to keep their village pub going.

In one village, Kinnerley, locals are determined to save their local, the Cross Keys.

The pub is closed after a fire there last month and many fear that it many not open again.

The owner, a developer from the Midlands, has said he would like to sell the building. But Kinnerley Parish Council registered it as a community asset, giving local people six months to raise the cash to be able to buy it.

That time runs out on Christmas Day and an action group set up to try to find the money says many more people need to pledge to help if the Cross Keys is to be bought by the community.

A public meeting will be held in Kinnerley Village Hall on January 19 to explain more about trying to keep the pub in the village.

John Dyson from the Cross Keys Action Committee, who has lived in Kinnerley for eight years, said they was a possibility that the pub could close forever.

"Our committee feel that the loss of this ancient amenity would be a sad loss for the village and surrounding villages and we are making every effort to purchase the pub as a community asset.

"We are exploring the availability of various grants but all require matching contributions from the community and we are gauging this support by inviting pledges from the residents of the area.

"We are very grateful for the pledges received so far and we hope that many more pledges of at least £500 will be made before December 15. Perhaps local organisations or individuals could pledge to fundraise to make the money."

Any questions or pledges should be made to Mr Dyson on (01691) 682214 or ckaactioncommittee@gmail.com.

Repor Pam Kingsley

WORK is set to take place next week to install a new footbridge at Chirk Station as part of a £2million project to provide better access to the station.

The station's car park will be closed from Friday evening to allow the works vehicles access and will reopen on December 16.

Network Rail will use a 150 tonne crane to manoeuvre the new footbridge and its stairs and bridge deck into place.

Christine Ashford from the Friends of Chirk Station, said: "The £2m we received will pay for a ramped footbridge providing an accessible route to platform one for northbound trains for the first time. The project will also provide an accessible drop off point, disabled car park spaces, improved station signage and some new tactile paving.

"The car park will have to be closed as the crane will be situated there, and HGV deliveries are planned throughout the 12 day period.

"We have headaches with people not being able to park but it will be worth all the pain and disruption to see Chirk Station, at long last, open to all."

A drop off zone will still be available near to the Platform 2 entrance, but rail users are being advised to drive to Ruabon or Gobowen stations if they need to park while they travel by train.

The programme is being funded by £7m from the Welsh Government and £5m from the Department for Transport.

Chirk is one of five stations in Wales that has been granted money to provide access for all.

Mrs Ashford said the work is desperately needed so that wheelchair users, mothers with pushchairs and people carrying large items of luggage could use the platform.

She said: "Friends of Chirk Station has lobbied long and hard for disabled access at platform one for trains travelling north."

"We watch daily as people struggle up and down 24 very steep steps to platform one, many of them young mums with children in pushchairs."

"I've been on the station when people have had to call those waiting for them to come and help them with their suitcases."

Festive fun

PRIMARY school children are invited to visit Oswestry Library to create a Christmas scene on Saturday

The activity will run from 10.30am to 11.30am and children will create their own festive pictures and be able to listen to Christmas stories.

Places should be booked by calling (01691) 677388.

Data shows crime report shortcoming

DYFED-Powys Police, the force which covers the Welshpool area, has been ranked as one of the four worst performing forces in the country for crime reporting, figures show.

More than 800,000 - or one in five - of all crimes reported in England and Wales each year are not recorded, said the Inspectorate of Constabulary.

Dyfed-Powys Police failed to record more than 30 per cent of crimes reported to it, the Inspectorate said.

The force hit back, saying the findings are "potentially misleading" as it was based on a sample of fewer than 73 incidents.

But Christopher Salmon, force commissioner, said it was a problem he identified "some time ago."

The report looked at more than 8,000 reports of crime in England and Wales and said the problem was greatest for victims of violent crime, with a third unrecorded.

The watchdog said the failure to record crime properly was "indefensible".

For West Mercia Police, which covers Shropshire, the study looked at 130 reports and identified 100 of those as actual crimes - yet only 74 were recorded as crimes by the force.

Regarding Dyfed-Powys, the report said: "We examined 109 incident records and found that 73 crimes should have been recorded. Of the 73 crimes that should have been recorded, 50 were. Of the 50, four were wrongly classified and three were recorded outside the 72-hour limit allowed.

"This is of serious concern as it means that some victims' crimes are not being recorded and that these victims are not receiving the service they deserve."

Sharon Reynolds, Dyfed-Powys Police spokeswoman, said the force acknowledged the report on crime data integrity inspection and said there were a number of factors that have been positively recognised.

Pub toilet wins award in contest

AN Oswestry pub has won an award for the standards of its toilets in the Loo of the Year Awards 2014.

The Wilfred Owen in Willow Street has been awarded a gold star rating by inspectors.

The awards are aimed at highlighting and improving standards of 'away from home' toilet provision across the UK.

The Wilfred Owen, a Wetherspoon pub, is managed by Christian Haigh.

He said: "I am delighted with the award. Staff at the pub work hard to ensure the toilets are in first-class condition at all times and it is great that this has been recognised by the inspectors."

The Loo of the Year awards 2014 managing director, Mike Bone, said: "The toilets at The Wilfred Owen have been designed and fitted out to a very high standard and are both clean and well maintained. The pub richly deserves its gold award."

Bed blocking eases

HEALTH chiefs in Shropshire have said they are winning the war against "bed-blocking" - but warned there is still some way to go before targets are reached.

The number of beds taken up at Shropshire's two main hospitals by people who do not need to be there has dropped dramatically recently Bed blocking - where patients are fit to be discharged but are not well enough to return home and there is nowhere else to send them - had reached record levels at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital and Telford's Princess Royal Hospital.

Motorists are given weather warning

MOTORISTS in the Welshpool area are being urged to prepare their car for winter driving by highways bosses at the county council.

Adverse weather and longer periods of darkness makes driving more hazardous, Powys County Council has reminded the area's motorists.

Councillor John Powell, cabinet member for road safety at Powys County Council, said: "Sometimes conditions can be extreme, as we have found out over recent winters, with prolonged periods of heavy snow and floods."

He said Powys County Council's Road Safety Unit had issued tips to help drivers prepare their vehicles for winter driving and travelling in adverse conditions.

Councillor Powell said: "In order to minimise collision risk, drivers need to adapt their driving to the different conditions. Our tips will help drivers cope better with the various seasonal weather hazards."

Sarah Morris, the council's senior road safety officer, added it was important that motorists were aware of potential dangers.

She advised motorists to be prepared for bad weather.

She said: "Make sure you know and understand the hazards and risks of all types of weather conditions, especially ice, snow and fog, before you set off on your journey."

"Short-term weather forecasts are now very accurate so listen to local and national weather broadcasts. Tell someone your destination, what time you expect to arrive and avoid making your journey unless it is absolutely necessary."

"Finally, clear your windows and mirrors completely of snow and ice before you set off."

Pre-school looking for art support

A PRE-SCHOOL is appealing for artists, graphic designers and musicians to help with a new project to inspire the pupils' love of art.

Morda Village Preschool, near Oswestry, hopes to use its "Dancing with Design - Children inspired by art" project to create a large piece of art to be displayed in the local community.

Emma Jefferys, from the pre-school, said: "We are looking to inspire and introduce the children aged two to four and a half to the beauty and wonder of art."

"We have chosen the work of Jackson Pollock to inspire the project and we have taken influence from a recent study trip to Reggio Emilia, where preschools employ an artist in residence. In order for the children's representations to be given justice we are looking for local artists, graphic designers and musicians to come forward to discuss this exciting project in terms of what they could offer us."

Call (01691) 688743 for more details.

26 **Olympic ambition nearer for cyclist**

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, December 4, 2014

A TEENAGE cyclist from Llanymynech, who hopes one day to ride in the Olympics, has taken the first steps towards achieving his dream.

Tomos Owens, 15, the youngest rider of the Shrewsbury-based Paramount Performance Cycling Racing Team, has been invited to become an Olympic Development Apprentice with the Great Britain Cycling Team.

The young rider was chosen for the scheme after coaches recognised him as having the potential to develop into a world class athlete. As an apprentice the former under 12 British Circuit Series Champion will now be trained by British Cycling coaches to develop his riding performance and will have access to world class training facilities.

The scheme lasts one to two years and if Tomos demonstrates continued progress and performance he will graduate onto the Olympic Graduate Programme and will be another step closer to realising his Olympic dreams.

The Year 11 Llanfyllin School pupil said: "I've not really had a great season so to be recognised by British Cycling for this apprenticeship scheme is amazing."

"I would love to compete in the Olympics one day. It would be absolutely awesome so this is one giant step closer to realising that ambition."

The youngster is used to putting in hours of training around his school studies but the apprenticeship will mean participating in regular 10 hour training days and workshops at Manchester Velodrome.

"It will be hard work but I'm really looking forward to it," he said.

Action being taken to halt bike deaths

ACTION is being taken to cut down on motorcycle deaths in Wales including on the roads in Powys.

Welsh transport minister Edwina Hart has called for more to be done to prevent deaths after 25 riders were killed in the first eight months of the year.

Mrs Hart has spoken to the four police Chief Constables who cover Wales and said she is hoping that investing more in rider safety programmes will lead to fewer deaths.

She said: "I have been concerned about the fatalities we've seen so far this year, especially among motorcyclists."

"In the first nine months of this year, 25 motorcyclists have lost their lives on Welsh roads - 12 on the trunk road network, and 13 on other roads."

"This avoidable loss of life has tragic consequences for the families and friends of those who died." Mrs Hart said funding would be given to a number of programmes aimed at promoting safety.

Child care concern

SIXTEEN reports of missing children have been given to police in Shropshire that are linked to child sexual exploitation or sex offences.

The figures have almost trebled since last year. The figures show that some of the county's most troubled children are repeatedly disappearing from residential homes and foster placements.

More than half of the 653 reports of missing children so far this year in Shropshire involve children in care. Council chiefs warned there is a strong link between a child who "persistently" goes missing and sexual exploitation.

Half marathon effort benefits children's hospice



The fundraisers hand over the cheque to Hope House

HOPE House Children's Hospice near Oswestry has been given a cash boost thanks to a Shropshire firm of solicitors who took team bonding to a new level.

More than a dozen employees from the same firm took part in the Birmingham half marathon to raise cash for the children's hospice.

In all 13 employees of SLC Solicitors, Shrewsbury travelled to Birmingham for the Bupa Half Marathon in order to raise money for the hospice.

After less than a year's training, everyone crossed the line earning a well-deserved medal, staff members were delighted to say.

Caroline Hammond, an employee

of the solicitors, said: "It was a great event and not only did it raise money for a very worthy cause, it was a fantastic experience for us all."

"We supported each other through injury and self-doubt and it definitely brought us closer together."

"The spectators lining the streets were so encouraging, handing out sweets and biscuits, playing instruments, shouting and clapping as we ran passed, giving us a much needed boost."

Hope House Children's Hospice, based in Morda near Oswestry, offers its service for the respite care of terminally ill children with their support extending to the whole family.

"Over the years, SLC Solicitors has supported Hope House as its charity of choice, this is our first half marathon but no doubt not the last," said Caroline.

The current total raised is £3,896 with money still coming in.

"We would like to thank all of our benefactors for their generosity and support, this gave us the motivation to carry on and finish and made the whole experience well worthwhile," she added.

The hospice offers a range of services including respite and end-of-life care and support such as counselling and advocacy. Bereavement support is also offered.

Suspects are left on police bail for years, data shows

By Emma Walker

POLICE suspects in Shropshire and Mid Wales are being left on police bail for more than two years, figures reveal.

More than 1,000 people in the West Mercia force area, which covers the Oswestry area, are currently waiting to hear if they are to be charged with a crime.

And in the most extreme cases it has taken more than 700 days for police and the Crown Prosecution Service to deal with cases. The figures were revealed by a Freedom of Information request amid calls nationally for a time limit to be placed on bail.

Bug appeal is issued by NHS bosses

PEOPLE from the Oswestry area planning to visit hospitals and healthcare facilities in Shropshire are being asked to stay away if they have experienced any symptoms of norovirus.

The number of cases of the illness, which has symptoms of diarrhoea and vomiting, are slightly higher than the five-year average in the West Midlands for this time of year and those who are affected are being asked to help prevent the spread of these illnesses, especially to vulnerable patients.

Rachael Allen, Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust's head of infection prevention and control, said one way to do this is by not visiting hospitals whether an acute hospital such as Shrewsbury or Ludlow, Oswestry's Orthopaedic Hospital or community hospitals across the county.

She said: "These stomach bugs are highly contagious and can spread rapidly anywhere that people are gathered, such as schools or offices."

"Hospitals are public buildings with hundreds or thousands of visitors every day."

"This is why we're asking everyone considering visiting or attending any of our hospitals if they have experienced diarrhoea, vomiting, flu-like symptoms, or have been generally unwell in the last 48 hours, to think very carefully if they need to visit."

Dr Patricia O'Neill, consultant microbiologist and director for infection prevention and control at The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust, said: "There are currently no wards affected by norovirus at either hospital. However, we would like to reiterate our normal seasonal message for all hospital visitors - please follow the 48 hour rule. Please do not visit hospitals or care homes if you, or the people you live with, have had diarrhoea, vomiting or flu-like symptoms in the last 48 hours."

There are currently 2,020 people on bail across both West Mercia and Dyfed Powys force areas.

Latest figures show West Mercia Police has 1,140 people on bail while the Dyfed-Powys force has 880 - a total of 2,020.

A considerable number have been on bail for more than six months.

Chief Inspector Colin Reynolds, head of custody for West Mercia Police, said bail periods "varied in length" due to the "complexities of the investigation".

He said the longest current bail period related to a case of manslaughter through gross negligence, while other suspects bailed for more than 611 days related to a case of money laundering.

He said: "Both investigations are extremely involved."

"The suspects in both cases are due to answer bail later this month."

Currently legislation in England and Wales does not limit the amount of time a person can remain on police pre-charge bail. But limits could be introduced on the time people can be on police bail in England and Wales, the Home Secretary Theresa May has warned.

She said the Home Office would hold a consultation on bringing in a limit, while the College of Policing will review the use of police bail.

A Dyfed-Powys Police spokesman said the figures for Shropshire and Mid Wales provide "a snapshot in time of the situation".

The national review follows cases including those of celebrities Jim Davidson and Paul Gambaccini, both on bail for months but never charged.

Firm gives out safety advice

PEOPLE in the Oswestry area have been urged to get their heating and cooking appliances serviced.

In the last 12 months more than 2,700 carbon monoxide related incidents have been reported across the Wales & West Utilities network, bosses have said, including 12 in Shropshire.

Plans are laid for big parade



The rotary club's Linda Butler and Jonathan Jones prepare for the parade

Carnival fever coming to town centre streets

CARNIVAL comes to Oswestry on Saturday when the annual Christmas procession takes place.

Oswestry's streets will be lined with hundreds of onlookers as more than 40 floats and other vehicles wind their way through the town centre.

Yet just seven years ago the parade was in danger of folding with just two or three floats taking part.

The Borderland Rotary Club stepped in to stop the procession from disappearing from the town's festive calendar.

Over the years the rotary club has encouraged more and more groups, organisations and businesses to join in with floats, smaller vehicles and even walking fancy dress entries.

Jonathan Jones for the club said this year there would be more than 40 individual entries this year.

The procession will begin at 11am at the junction with Lower Brook Street and

Church Street when roads through the town centre will be closed to traffic.

Floats will travel along Church Street to the Cross where large vehicles split away to go up Willow Street and Castle Street, while the rest of the parade continues along Cross Street, Leg Street and Beatrice Street where the large vehicles rejoin it. The parade then travels along Oswald Road then back along Cross Street and Church Street.

Mr Jones said: "We have so many people that we have to thank that help to make this event happen - Oswestry Rotary Club, Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes, local businesses for entering the floats and a special thanks for businesses for supplying the vehicles, especially the articulated vehicles, for the parade."

He said this year the Santa's Grotto would be set up in the former barber shop in Willow Street where families could go and meet Father Christmas after the parade and leave with a small present.

Farmers oppose recycling decision

PLANS to close a recycling centre have been criticised by farming chiefs who fear it will lead to a spike in rural fly-tipping.

Powys County Council has announced it will close Machynlleth Recycling Centre. But Jonathan Wilkinson, chairman of Montgomeryshire NFU, said it will lead to more people dumping their rubbish illegally in the countryside.

Mr Wilkinson has now written to the council urging it to reconsider its decision to close the yard, which is operated by Potters Recycling of Welshpool.

He said: "In 2012/13 over 34,000 fly-tipping incidents were recorded in Wales and closing local recycling facilities, such as this one in Machynlleth, will only lead to an upward trend in these figures."

"A lack of appropriate waste provision is often cited as a reason why people fly-tip and whilst we can appreciate that Powys Council has to make significant savings across all services, eliminating this facility is in reality passing the buck to farmers, who in the long-run will have to clear up more mess and pick up a bigger bill for waste illegally dumped on their land, this is totally unfair."

"In addition to the unnecessary cost and burden placed on farm businesses, fly-tipping will certainly incur an additional cost for the council too, therefore closing the facilities in Machynlleth would not be the most viable option to take and we urge the council to reconsider its position on this matter."

Machynlleth Councillor, Michael Williams said it was "absolutely scandalous" that the council is closing the Machynlleth plant.

Motorists are avoiding driving bans

MORE than three quarters of drivers in Shropshire with more than 12 points on their licence are still in possession of a driving licence, the DVLA has revealed.

There were 20 driving licence holders with addresses in Shropshire who had 12 or more penalty points on their driving licence - the level at which a driving ban can be enforced. But the DVLA said its records show that 17 of those had not received a disqualification.

In Powys just four driving licence holders had 12 or more penalty points on their licence, and three had not received a disqualification.

Anyone with more than 12 points on their licence faces an automatic disqualification although courts do have discretion on a ban.

Historic hall gets award

A HISTORIC Mid Wales hall formerly owned by two sisters who amassed one of the largest art collections in Wales has been awarded an international award.

Gregynog Hall, at Tregynon used to be owned by the Davies sisters Gwendoline and Margaret who collected items of fine art.

Now the hall is a tourist attraction.

It has now been awarded World Host Business Status, after the majority of staff received customer service training.

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Casualty

9pm

Ash disagrees with Dylan on how to treat a 19-year-old student's suspected overdose. Zoe gets annoyed with Cal when he flirts with her patient and the paramedics receive a mysterious hamper addressed to Jeff. Medical drama, starring Patrick Robinson, Sunetra Sarker and Richard Winsor.



Tomorrow's Worlds: The Unearthly History of Science Fiction

10pm

Dominic Sandbrook continues his exploration of the genre by looking at its obsession with robots. The idea of playing God and creating artificial life has fascinated writers since the earliest days of sci-fi.



The Chase: Celebrity Special

7pm

I'm a Celebrity 2013 winner Kian Egan, former Olympic swimmer Sharron Davies, presenter Matt Johnson and actor Larry Lamb compete to win thousands of pounds for charity by taking on one of the show's resident trivia experts in a test of their general knowledge.



Inside Rolls-Royce

7pm

A behind-the-scenes look at the luxurious world of the renowned British car brand, following workers at the manufacturer's Goodwood factory as they build their most expensive bespoke car to date, the Celestial Phantom, which comes complete with diamond-studded interior.



Live International Boxing

8.30pm

Yoan Pablo Hernandez v Ola Afolabi. Coverage of the bout for the IBF World Cruiserweight title from the EWE-Arena in Oldenburg, Germany. Cuban Hernandez is making his sixth defence of the title he won in controversial fashion via a technical decision over Steve Cunningham in 2011.

BBC1

- 6.00 Breakfast.**
10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. James Martin is joined by chefs and celebrity guests for the cooking show, which also features BBC Archive highlights and wine choices for the dishes prepared in the studio.
11.30 Tom Kerridge's Proper Pub Food. Family dishes inspired by classic British pub fare. Last in the series. (R)
12.00 BBC News; Weather.
12.10 Football Focus. Dan Walker and guests are at Wrexham's Racecourse Ground to look ahead to the weekend's matches, including the second-round fixtures in the FA Cup.
1.00 Live Snooker: UK Championship. Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the first semi-final at the Barbican Centre in York, where the first player to win six frames will progress to the final. Coverage continues on BBC2.
4.30 Final Score. Jason Mohammad presents a round-up of this afternoon's results from the Premier League, Football League and Scotland.
5.25 Celebrity Mastermind. With Clare Crogan, Newton Faulkner, Richard Whitehead and Quentin Letts. (R)
5.55 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
6.10 Pointless Celebrities. Alexander Armstrong quizzes eight writers – Charlie Higson, Rachel Johnson, Robert Harris, Gill Hornby, Jenny Colgan, Benjamin Zephaniah, Danny Wallace and Stuart Maconie.
7.00 Strictly Come Dancing. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman present the quarter-final of the ballroom battle as the remaining six couples take one more step closer to lifting the glitterball trophy. The results are tomorrow at 7.20pm.
8.15 Atlantis. Ariadne sets out on a journey for Telemón's homeland of Aegina, despite Jason's concerns for his queen's safety – and before long the royal procession faces enemies at every turn.
9.00 Casualty. Ash disagrees with Dylan on how to treat a suspected overdose, Zoe gets annoyed with Cal for flirting with her patient and the paramedics receive a mysterious hamper for Jeff.
9.50 The National Lottery Live. Jenni Falconer is joined by singer Katherine Jenkins as she reveals the numbers for the Lotto and Thunderball draws.
10.00 BBC News; Weather.
10.20 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League clashes, including Newcastle United v Chelsea at St James' Park and Stoke City v Arsenal at the Britannia Stadium; **National Lottery Update.**
11.45 The Football League Show. Manish Bhasin presents highlights and all the goals from the latest fixtures in the Championship and League Two, including Fulham v Watford.
12.25 FILM: AWOL: Absent Without Leave (1990). Action adventure, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme and Harrison Page.
2.05 Weather for the Week Ahead.
2.10 BBC News.

BBC2

- 6.00 CBBC: Timmy Time 6.10 Timmy Time 6.25 Shaun the Sheep 6.30 Hacker Time 7.00 All Over the Place 7.30 Help! My Supply Teacher is Magic 8.00 Marrying Mum and Dad 8.30 Absolute Genius with Dick & Dom 9.00 Junior MasterChef 9.30 Junior MasterChef 10.00 Deadly Pole to Pole 10.30 Deadly Pole to Pole: The Complete Journey**
11.00 The Blue Planet. Camera crews journey to the deepest parts of the world's oceans to explore the lives of their inhabitants, many of which are relatively new to science. With David Attenborough. (R)
12.00 Rick Stein's Far Eastern Odyssey. The chef discovers hot and spicy vegetable curries in Sri Lanka before visiting Bali, where food has a religious significance. He also samples the best pork he has ever tasted. (R)
1.00 The Rockford Files. Jim investigates a corrupt union. (R)
1.45 FILM: The Great Caruso (1951). Biopic of renowned Italian opera singer Enrico Caruso, who rose from humble beginnings to become one of the world's most acclaimed tenors. Starring Mario Lanza and Ann Blyth.
3.30 Flog It! From Warminster in Wiltshire. (R)
4.30 Live Snooker: UK Championship. Further coverage of the first semi-final at the Barbican Centre in York.
5.30 Restoring England's Heritage. Architect Jeremy Gould tours Devon and Cornwall's crumbling historic buildings.
6.00 Secrets of the Castle with Ruth, Peter and Tom. The trio turn their attentions to medieval interior design, with Peter and Tom rendering and lime-washing the inside walls of a guard tower and Ruth decorating a bedchamber. (R)
7.00 Live Snooker: UK Championship. Hazel Irvine presents all the action from the second semi-final at the Barbican Centre in York, where the first player to win six frames will book their place in tomorrow's final. Subsequent programmes subject to change.
10.00 Tomorrow's Worlds: The Unearthly History of Science Fiction. Dominic Sandbrook examines sci-fi's obsession with creating artificial life, looking at examples from Doctor Who, The Terminator, Blade Runner, Battlestar Galactica and The Matrix.
11.00 Intruders. Jack discovers the alarming scope of the organisation to which he has lost Amy, Marcus and Madison engage in a fatal struggle, and Richard goes on the run. Last in the series.
11.45 FILM: Night and the City (1992). A small-time lawyer becomes a boxing promoter, only to fall foul of gangsters who stand to lose money on his fighters. Thriller remake, starring Robert De Niro and Jessica Lange.
1.25 FILM: Beyond the Fire (2009). =Romantic drama, starring Scot Williams and Cara Seymour.
2.40 This is BBC2. Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC2.

ITV

- 6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! 6.25 Pat & Stan 6.35 Pat & Stan 6.40 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures 7.05 Canimals 7.10 Signed Stories: Share a Story 7.15 Sooty 7.25 Mr Bean: The Animated Series 7.40 Text Santa: Little Helpers 7.45 Matt Hatter Chronicles 8.10 Text Santa: Little Helpers 8.15 Horrid Henry 8.30 The Munch Box**
9.25 Dinner Date. Leeds bachelor David picks three blind dates. (R)
10.20 Murder, She Wrote. A small town is under threat. (R)
11.15 ITV News and Weather; Weather.
11.25 Storage Hoarders. A man who hoards historical heirlooms. (R)
12.25 Countrywise. Paul Heiney and Bettany Hughes visit the Kent coast. (R)
12.55 Doc Martin. The doctor prepares for his wedding. (R)
2.00 Keep It in the Family. Former I'm a Celebrity campers help contestants win prizes. Last in the series. (R)
3.00 FILM: Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (2002). Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Daniel Radcliffe.
6.00 ITV News Central; Weather.
6.15 ITV News and Weather.
6.30 New You've Been Framed! Comedy with Harry Hill, inspired by viewers' videos, featuring elaborate pranks, a cat terrorising a postman and an accident at the top of the Eiffel Tower.
7.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special. I'm a Celebrity 2013 winner Kian Egan, former Olympic swimmer Sharron Davies, presenter Matt Johnson and actor Larry Lamb play for charity. Bradley Walsh hosts. Last in the series.
8.00 The X Factor. The acts have been in rehearsals all week and now the time has come for them to show the voting public why they deserve a place in next week's final. Dermot O'Leary hosts. The results are tomorrow at 8pm.
9.30 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! Ant and Dec present highlights from the past 24 hours in the jungle and reveal which celebrity has fallen at the last hurdle, missing out on a place in the final.
10.35 The Jonathan Ross Show. The host chats to Top Gear presenter Jeremy Clarkson, comedy actress Miranda Hart, actor Martin Freeman, and singer-songwriter Paul McCartney, with music by Ella Henderson.
11.40 ITV News and Weather; Weather.
11.55 FILM: Play Misty for Me (1971). A DJ revives his relationship with an old flame, driving an obsessive fan mad with jealousy. Psychological thriller, directed by and starring Clint Eastwood, with Jessica Walter.
1.40 Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. The host takes his successful talk show stateside, where he invites American guests to air their differences. (R)
3.45 ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4

- 6.05 Great Ethiopian Run.** Action from the 10km race held on the streets of Addis Ababa.
7.00 FIM Superbike World Championship. A review of the season with Tom Sykes.
8.00 The Morning Line. Nick Luck presents from Donald McCain's yard.
9.00 Weekend Kitchen. With Sarah Millican, Michael Ball and Simon Lycett.
10.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. Robert is promoted to lieutenant. (R)
10.30 Frasier. A lawyer begins dating Frasier. (R)
10.55 Frasier. Samantha ends her relationship with Frasier. (R)
11.25 The Big Bang Theory. Leonard gets back together with Leslie Winkle. (R)
11.55 The Simpsons. Bart bankrupts Krusty the Clown. (R)
12.20 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. The team pursues a murderer who leaves writing on the bodies of his victims. (R)
1.20 Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Sandown Park and Aintree.
4.00 Come Dine with Me. Jules Hobbs hosts the first festive dinner party from south-east London. (R)
4.30 Come Dine with Me. Banker Tom Judge hosts a Dickensian Christmas-themed party in south-east London. (R)
5.00 Come Dine with Me. John Stevens hosts the third festive dinner party from south-east London. (R)
5.35 Come Dine with Me. Kate Kershaw hosts a Christmas word-themed party in south-east London. (R)
6.00 Come Dine with Me. Fun-loving salesman Charlie Spiteri hosts the final festive dinner party in south-east London, hoping to impress his guests with a three-bird roast and a snow machine. (R)
6.30 Channel 4 News.
7.00 Inside Rolls-Royce. Behind the scenes at the renowned car manufacturer's Goodwood factory, as the team builds the luxurious Celestial Phantom, which comes complete with diamond-studded interior. (R)
8.00 FILM: Battleship (2012). Premiere. American naval vessels go into battle against an invading fleet of powerful alien spaceships. Sci-fi adventure, with Taylor Kitsch, Liam Neeson and Alexander Skarsgard.
10.35 FILM: From Dusk Till Dawn (1996). A pair of outlaws take a family hostage and then lie low in a Mexican strip club, which turns out to be infested with vampires. Horror, starring George Clooney and Harvey Keitel.
12.40 FILM: The Talented Mr Ripley (1999). A man is paid to persuade a businessman's spoiled son to return home to his family, but ends up assuming his identity. Anthony Minghella's thriller, with Matt Damon.
3.05 Hollyoaks. Omnibus. Rick forces Jason to fight, despite his injured hand, Diane plays Tony at his own game and Cameron gambles everything on Rick's advice. (R)
5.15 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. A couple try to decide between the West Country and Malaga. (R)

Channel 5

- 6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig 6.05 Roary the Racing Car 6.15 Angelina Ballerina 6.30 Pip Ahoy! 6.40 The Mr Men Show 6.55 Chloe's Closet 7.05 Olly the Little White Van 7.10 Bananas in Pyjamas 7.25 Make Way for Noddy 7.35 Paw Patrol 7.50 Little Princess 8.05 The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky 8.20 Wanda and the Alien 8.40 Zack and Quack 8.55 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 9.10 Jelly Jamm 9.25 LazyTown**
9.55 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. The brothers try to stop squirrel mutants from escaping into the city. (R)
10.30 FILM: Santa Jr (2002). Christmas comedy, starring Nick Stabile.
12.15 FILM: Meet the Santas (2005). Fantasy comedy sequel, with Steve Guttenberg.
FILM: Hats Off to Christmas! (2013). Romantic drama, with Haylie Duff and Antonio Cupo.
3.40 FILM: Mrs Miracle (2009). Family drama, starring Doris Roberts.
5.35 FILM: Noel (2004). Drama, starring Susan Sarandon.
7.25 Britain's Craziest Christmas Lights. Noddy Holder narrates a documentary following four households as they transform their homes into electric winter wonderlands with extensive displays of festive illuminations. (R)
5 News Weekend.
8.30 FILM: Rocky Balboa (2006). The ageing fighter comes out of retirement to take on the current reigning heavyweight champion. Boxing drama sequel, directed by and starring Sylvester Stallone. With Burt Young.
FILM: Pale Rider (1985). A mysterious preacher with lethal gunfighting skills helps a mining community battle a ruthless landowner. Western, directed by and starring Clint Eastwood. With Michael Moriarty.
12.40 SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.10 Gotham. Gordon and Bullock investigate a deadly fight club where the winners are awarded a job, while Bruce learns a difficult lesson when he tries to make friends at school. (R)
4.00 House Doctor. Ann Maurice offers advice to a bachelor having trouble selling his home in Knutsford, Cheshire, because it is too masculine. (R)
4.25 Make It Big. Graham gets frustrated by Simon's lack of enthusiasm for the charity night, but luckily the girls come up with a good idea. (R)
4.50 Make It Big. Graham is despondent when the girls reveal they hate his chosen venue, while Keren's decision to call a meeting infuriates Rebecca – prompting a full-blown argument between the two. (R)
5.15 Angels of Jarm. Angel Ellie helps a girl who makes fun of the way her friends look. (R)
5.20 Angels of Jarm. The children grow tomato plants. (R)
5.30 Angels of Jarm. (R)
5.40 Roary the Racing Car.



Antiques Roadshow

8pm

Fiona Bruce and the team visits Waltham Forest Town Hall in east London, where members of the public bring along treasured antiques and collectibles. Items of interest include a ring by one of the world's great jewellers and a Rolex watch with a connection to Britain's Special Forces.



MOTD: FA Cup Highlights

6pm

Manish Bhasin presents action from the latest second-round matches, as the non-league sides aimed to make a name for themselves and book a place in the third round, and a potential tie against a Premier League club. Fixtures included Gateshead v Warrington Town and Bradford City v Dartford.



Coronation Street

7pm

A desperate Kylie sets off to find Callum after running out of drugs, while Eva agrees to take a worried David to his wife's old haunt the Dog & Gun. Kai is furious that Tony is exploiting Zeedan when he should be with his family, and Owen unwittingly lets slip to Diane that Kevin gave her sofa to Sally.



The Billion Pound Base: Dismantling Camp Bastion

8pm

For eight years, Britain's biggest overseas base since the Second World War has been the powerhouse of UK and US military operations, and now Camp Bastion is closing down for good. A huge project that faces a constant threat from the Taliban.



Police Interceptors

9.50am

The dog unit embarks on a desperate manhunt amid fears that an armed and dangerous character is roaming the streets of Lincoln, while Craggy closes in on a suspected shoplifter with a bag full of surprises. Officers from Lincolnshire's Roads Policing Unit also tackle a would-be stunt rider.

BBC1

- 6.00 Breakfast.**
7.35 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League clashes, including Newcastle United v Chelsea at St James' Park and Stoke City v Arsenal at the Britannia Stadium. (R)
9.00 The Andrew Marr Show.
10.00 Fern Britton Meets Nicholas Parsons. The veteran presenter talks to Fern Britton about his 70-year career in showbusiness, and reveals how his parents once stood between him and his dream of acting.
11.00 Sunday Politics. The week's events at Westminster, presented by Andrew Neil. Including a regional round-up.
12.15 MOTD2 Extra. With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team.
1.00 BBC News; Weather.
1.15 Bargain Hunt. From Glasgow. (R)
1.45 FA Cup Final Score. Jason Mohammad presents an FA Cup edition of the football results and report show, bringing the key moments and reports from today's second-round matches.
4.20 Songs of Praise. Chef James Martin creates a festive tipple.
4.55 Christmas Supermarket Secrets. Gregg Wallace finds out how major retailers cope at Christmas. (R)
5.55 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
6.20 Countryfile. The team is in East Sussex, where Helen Skelton finds dinosaur footprints, John Craven visits an estate favoured by Rudyard Kipling and Joe Crowley joins Sussex Wildlife Ambulance. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.
7.20 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman reveal which couples are guaranteed a place in the semi-final and which two have to face each other in the dance-off. OneRepublic provide the music.
8.00 Antiques Roadshow. The team visits Waltham Forest Town Hall in east London, where items include a Rolex with a connection to Britain's Special Forces and the world's oldest hot cross bun.
9.00 Remember Me. DI Fairholme joins Hannah to search for Tom, finding him at a caravan park – but he still refuses to be drawn on the significance of the song Scarborough Fair. Last in the series.
10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action, featuring West Ham United v Swansea City at Upton Park and Aston Villa v Leicester City at Villa Park.
11.35 The Apprentice. The entrepreneurs are challenged to find and buy nine items – all of which have featured in tasks throughout the history of the show – at the best possible prices. (R)
12.35 FILM: Racing for Time (2008). A guard at a facility for teenage offenders forms a track team to break down racial tensions. Fact-based drama, directed by and starring Charles S Dutton.
2.00 Weather for the Week Ahead.
2.05 BBC News.

BBC2

- 6.15 Great British Garden Revival.** Toby Buckland meets a conservationist who works to save species of fruit trees that are close to extinction, while Christine Walkden looks at ornamental bedding plants. (R)
7.15 Countryfile. The team reports from Lancashire, where John Craven uncovers a landscape that was once a true spectacle, but is now almost lost to the ravages of time. (R)
8.15 Glorious Gardens from Above. Christine Walkden explores impressive landscapes – by hot-air balloon. (R)
9.00 The Football League Show. Highlights of the latest games in the Championship and League Two. (R)
9.40 50 Golden Years of Sport on BBC2. Sue Barker presents a look back at the history of sport on the channel through some of its most memorable events. With contributions by Murray Walker, Des Lynam and Ian Botham. (R)
10.40 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. James Martin presents highlights of the series, recalling his favourite moments from previous years in the kitchen.
12.10 The A to Z of TV Cooking. Festive recipes, including a Christmas cake by Fanny Craddock. (R)
12.55 Live Snooker: UK Championship. Hazel Irvine introduces coverage of the opening session of the final at the Barbican Centre in York, where eight frames are scheduled to take place. Subsequent programmes subject to change.
6.00 MOTD: FA Cup Highlights. Manish Bhasin presents action from the latest second-round matches, as the non-league sides aimed to make a name for themselves and book a place in the third round.
7.00 Live Snooker: UK Championship. Hazel Irvine introduces coverage of the second session of the final at the Barbican Centre in York, where the first player to reach 10 frames will be crowned champion. Subsequent programmes subject to change.
11.00 Russell Howard's Good News. The comedian offers his perspective on stories dominating the media, whether on television, online or in print, and he is joined by a guest with an amazing tale to tell. (R)
11.30 FILM: The British Guide to Showing Off (2011). Premiere. Part-animated documentary about Andrew Logan's Alternative Miss World show, celebrating some of the most memorable contestants featured over the 40 years of the event.
1.05 Sign Zone: Countryfile. The team reports from Lancashire, where John Craven uncovers a landscape that was once a true spectacle, but is now almost lost to the ravages of time. (R)
2.00 Sign Zone: Holby City. Jesse faces up to the consequences of his womanising ways. Zosia grapples with a patient harbouring a secret and the Holby board tries to impose fierce cost-cutting measures. (R)
3.00 This is BBC2.

ITV

- 6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! 6.25 Pat & Stan 6.35 Pat & Stan 6.40 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures 7.05 Canimals 7.10 Signed Stories: Share a Story 7.15 Sooty 7.25 Mr Bean: The Animated Series 7.40 Text Santa: Little Helpers 7.45 Ultimate Spider-Man 8.10 Text Santa: Little Helpers 8.15 Horrid Henry 8.30 Big Time Rush 9.00 The Aquabats! Super Show!
9.25 Dickinson's Real Deal. From Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire. (R)
10.25 Murder, She Wrote. A voodoo cult murders a journalist. (R)
11.25 ITV News and Weather; Weather.
11.35 FILM: Batteries Not Included (1987). A family of tiny flying saucers helps tenants of a run-down Manhattan tenement to stop developers demolishing the building. Sci-fi fantasy, with Jessica Tandy and Hume Cronyn.
1.30 All Star Family Fortunes. Dominic Brunt and Jenny Frost take part. (R)
2.30 The X Factor. The acts have been in rehearsals all week and now the time has come for them to show the voting public why they deserve a place in next week's final. Dermot O'Leary hosts. (R)
4.00 FILM: Apollo 13 (1995). Fact-based drama about the efforts to return the crew of the Apollo 13 lunar mission safely to Earth after an on-board explosion. Starring Tom Hanks, Kevin Bacon and Bill Paxton.
6.35 ITV News Central; Weather.
6.45 ITV News and Weather.
7.00 Coronation Street. Hour-long episode. A desperate Kylie sets off to find Callum after running out of drugs, while Katy tells Alya that she reckons Gary and Izzy are getting back together.
8.00 The X Factor Results. The remaining contestants wait with bated breath as Dermot O'Leary reveals who is safe and which acts will be battling it out in the sing-off for a place in next week's final.
9.00 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! Ant and Dec follow the finalists' last 24 hours in the Australian jungle, reveal the results of the public vote and crown this year's winner. Last in the series.
10.30 ITV News and Weather; Weather.
10.45 FILM: I Now Pronounce You Chuck & Larry (2007). A fireman asks a male colleague to pretend to marry him to get round a problem with his late wife's life insurance policy. Comedy, with Adam Sandler, Kevin James and Jessica Biel.
12.50 The Store. Home shopping.
2.35 Motorsport UK. Action from the latest races at Brands Hatch, featuring the Ginetta Junior Championship and the Porsche Carrera Cup. With commentary by Richard John Neil. (R)
3.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. The host takes his successful talk show stateside, where he invites American guests to air their differences. (R)
4.10 ITV Nightscreen. Text-based information service.
5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show. The host invites guests to air their differences over family and relationship issues. (R)**

Channel 4

- 6.10 NFL: The American Football Show.** Highlights from the 13th week of the NFL campaign. (R)
7.05 How I Met Your Mother. Barney and Ted pretend to be tourists. (R)
7.30 How I Met Your Mother. Ted and Barney compete for the same woman's affections. (R)
7.55 Frasier. A story is told from four perspectives. (R)
8.30 Small Animal Hospital. A trip to the doggy dentist proves challenging for John Barrowman. Last in the series.
9.00 Jamie's Comfort Food. Chicken Kiev, spaghetti vongole and shepherd's pie. (R)
9.30 Sunday Brunch. With Al Murray, Phill Jupitus and Ella Henderson.
12.30 The Big Bang Theory. Penny becomes addicted to an online game. (R)
1.00 The Big Bang Theory. Raj is named one of People magazine's "30 to Watch Under 30". (R)
1.30 The Big Bang Theory. Sheldon is forced to overcome his fear of driving. (R)
1.55 The Simpsons. Lisa makes a shocking discovery. (R)
2.25 The Simpsons. Homer takes Bart and Lisa to a rock festival. (R)
2.50 FILM: Stardust (2007). Fantasy adventure, starring Charlie Cox and Claire Danes.
5.25 FILM: Home Alone 2: Lost in New York (1992). A boy ends up stranded in the Big Apple – where he bumps into two familiar burglars with an axe to grind. Comedy sequel, starring Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci and Daniel Stern.
7.45 Channel 4 News.
8.00 The Billion Pound Base: Dismantling Camp Bastion. Documentary following the closure of the military base in Afghanistan, a huge project that faces a constant threat from the Taliban as defences and manpower deplete daily.
9.00 Homeland. Carrie is forced to improvise to salvage her mission, while the CIA swiftly closes in on a leak. Claire Danes, Rupert Friend and Mandy Patinkin star in the American thriller.
10.00 FILM: Sinister (2012). Premiere. A writer researching a horrific incident that took place in his house years previously uncovers a supernatural threat. Horror, starring Ethan Hawke, Juliet Rylance, Michael Hall D'Addario, Clare Foley and Victoria Leigh.
12.05 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. The host is joined by entertainer Bruce Forsyth, comedian Lee Evans and singer-songwriter George Ezra, who performs his latest single Listen to the Man. (R)
1.00 American Football Live. San Diego Chargers v New England Patriots (Kick-off 1.30am). Coverage of the week 14 clash from Qualcomm Stadium, where the AFC West and AFC East teams face each other.
4.45 NFL: Rush Zone. Animation about a young American football fan.
5.10 Win It Cook It. The teams battle to win pork chops. (R)
5.35 Countdown. Alistair McGowan joins Nick Hewer and Rachel Riley. (R)

Channel 5

- 6.00 Milkshake!** Peppa Pig **6.05 Roary the Racing Car 6.15 Angelina Ballerina: The Next Steps 6.30 Pip Ahoy! 6.40 The Mr Men Show 6.55 Chloe's Closet 7.05 Bananas in Pyjamas 7.20 Make Way for Noddy 7.30 Paw Patrol 7.45 Little Princess 7.55 The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky 8.10 Wanda and the Alien 8.20 Zack and Quack 8.35 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 8.55 Jelly Jamm**
9.10 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. April faces danger from a new threat. (R)
9.45 Access. Showbiz news and gossip. (R)
9.50 Police Interceptors. The dog unit embarks on a hunt for an armed man. (R)
10.45 Police Interceptors. The helicopter crew is called out to rescue a woman trapped by rising water. (R)
11.40 Police Interceptors. Sgt Jon Moon and his police dog Kanto are confronted by a thief wielding a knife. (R)
12.40 FILM: Dear Santa (2011). Romantic comedy, starring Amy Acker and David Haydn-Jones.
2.30 FILM: Santa Who? (2000). Family comedy, starring Leslie Nielsen.
4.20 FILM: Ice Age: The Meltdown (2006). Animated adventure sequel, with the voice of Ray Romano.
6.00 5 News Weekend.
6.05 FILM: Where Eagles Dare (1969). A commando unit sets out to rescue an American general held captive by the Nazis in a heavily defended fortress. Second World War adventure, with Richard Burton and Clint Eastwood.
9.00 FILM: Enemies Closer (2013). Premiere. Two sworn enemies must work together if they are to survive an encounter with a drug cartel. Action adventure, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme and Tom Everett Scott.
10.45 FILM: The Shepherd (2008). A border patrol agent sets out to stop military veterans trying to smuggle heroin out of Mexico into the US. Action thriller, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme and Scott Adkins.
12.35 Campus PD. Officer Savard finds two men behind a skip. (R)
1.05 SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.10 The Gadget Show. Union J check out devices that could enhance festive celebrations. (R)
4.00 House Doctor. A bachelor pad in Knutsford, Cheshire. (R)
4.25 Make It Big. Keren decides she has had enough. (R)
4.50 Make It Big. A visit to a radio station ends badly. (R)
5.15 Angels of Jarm. Otto forgets to feed the class guinea pigs. (R)
5.20 Angels of Jarm. Ellie sets out to help a boy who thinks he is no good at anything. (R)
5.30 Angels of Jarm. Angel Rafe shows the children how to get along. (R)
5.40 Roary the Racing Car. Maxi is jealous of James's gadgets. (R)
5.50 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

One of the many reasons I'm just drawn to water

I'VE been drawn to water for as long as I can remember.

Usually I had a fishing rod in hand and I can still not recommend a better grounding of basic natural history knowledge than to go fishing, whether you catch anything or not.

But being quiet and stealthy around the water's edge, that magical environment where, depending on where you are, it is possible to see just about any species of creature on Earth, meant that one became interested in all the animals that visited the water.

Whether it was sitting on the riverbank watching kingfishers, wandering the canal towpath glimpsing grebes and herons, lake-side hoping for a hint of an otter or 'on the water' and peering down into its murky depths; I was never happier than when I was semi-aquatic.

Upping sticks and moving to the American East coast at the age of 8, was therefore a further adventure to have and one that demanded an investigation into the new menagerie of species around me. If you look at a map of Connecticut, you will see a maze of rivers, many more streams and enormous natural lakes. Very few of those we bothered to visit; why would we? We had umpteen smaller, quieter lakes and ponds dotted all around us and very soon I realised the wildlife was even richer at these.

So when my parents decided to invest in a four-man canoe, my sister and I could hardly wait to take it out. That canoe provided many hours of playful splashing, haphazard wildlife watching and fishing, but it

ON THE WILDSIDE

with Ben Waddams



would be on the silent and still waters of one small pond that I would gain my fondest memories of all that was H2O.

It was a warm summer's eve. Not a whisper of wind and not a whisper from us either. The silence of the canoe makes it a perfect aide to wildlife watching. The bow wave was barely a ripple as we glided mutely and serenely into the centre of the pond. Suddenly there was a crack behind us and another not far off. We had been spotted. But fortune favours the patient and within minutes the perpetrators of the noises emerged a little more trusting. Beavers.

Beavers are second only to humans in their ability to manipulate their environment. With their famous log dams, they can block large streams and small rivers and indeed the largest known structure, in Wood Buffalo National Park, Alberta, Canada, stretches for 850m and is visible from space. The dams themselves should not be confused with Beaver homes, called lodges. The work of beavers makes them a key-stone species in maintaining habitats that are relied on by many others. We have a native species here in the UK, the Eurasian Beaver and there is both a colony living in Scotland and Devon.

Ben is currently preparing for his Shrewsbury December Shows - 13th & 20th



Beavers are second only to humans in their ability to manipulate their environment

Police forces are rated good in inspection

POLICE forces in West Mercia and Dyfed Powys have been rated "good" after undergoing an Ofsted-style inspection of the service.

The West Mercia force received praise for reducing crime and preventing offending, investigating offending, and tackling anti-social behaviour.

But the Peel report, which looked into police effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy in each individual force area, said West Mercia needed to be more proactive, staff needed more knowledge on specific policies and there had been limited progress on certain recommendations from 2012.

Dyfed Powys was praised for how it investigated crime, dealt with the most prolific offenders through a joined-up approach with partners, and how it tackled offenders causing the greatest risk to the public. Areas to improve included the force's approach to domestic abuse.

Dyfed Powys was also the only force, for 12 months to March, in England and Wales, that achieved detections rates, including cautions and charges, for more than half of its recorded crimes.

Detection rates across both countries ranged from 22 per cent to 51 per cent.

Police and Crime Commissioner Bill Longmore, said: "Overall I'm very pleased with the Peel findings."

"For the force to maintain good ratings across the board during a period when we have been through so much change, and forging the alliance with Warwickshire, is a real testament to a lot of hard work, which I'm grateful for."

"The report highlights some really important successes like the fact that West Mercia still has a good public satisfaction rate, officers are being used in the areas that they're needed most, and that crime rates here have dropped 17 per cent over the last four years."

Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner Christopher Salmon said he welcomed the analysis and agree police forces across England and Wales had work to do to meet the fast-evolving needs of its communities.

"British policing must change in culture, organisation and ability to use new policing technology," he said.

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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

deaths

CLARKE
Olive
nee Sinclair

Passed away peacefully on November 20, 2014, aged 93 years.

Beloved Wife of the late Eric. She will be sadly missed by all her Family and Friends.

Funeral Service at Pentrebychan Crematorium, Wrexham, on Tuesday, December 9, at 2.30pm.

Family flowers only.

Donations if desired to The Alzheimer's Society.

All inquiries to
DAVID DAVIES & SONS
1 Upper Church Street
Oswestry
Telephone 01691 653116.

ELDER

Heather

Passed away peacefully on November 21, 2014, aged 84 years.

Much loved Wife of the late John and a loving Mother, Grandmother and Great-Grandmother.

Funeral Service at St. John the Baptist Parish Church, Whittington, on Monday, December 1, at 2pm, followed by interment at Welsh Frankton Churchyard.

Family flowers only.

Donations if desired to Marie Curie Cancer Care and St. Andrew's Parish Church, Welsh Frankton.

All inquiries to
DAVID DAVIES & SONS
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MORRIS

Lynette Rose
(Netty)

Passed away peacefully on November 26, 2014, aged 58 years.

Much loved Wife of Neil, loving Mum of Ian and Fiona, Mother-in-law of Andra and James and a dear Sister to Val and Chris.

Funeral Service at St. Oswald's Parish Church, Oswestry on Monday, December 8, at 2.30pm, followed by Cremation at Emstrey Crematorium, Shrewsbury.

Family flowers only.

Donations if desired to The Isabelle Lottie Foundation.

All inquiries to
DAVID DAVIES & SONS
1 Upper Church Street
Oswestry

Telephone 01691 653116.
MURRAY-YOUNG

Vera Mary

Passed away peacefully at home, on November 28, 2014, aged 84 years. Much loved Wife of Richmond.

Funeral Service at Emstrey Crematorium, Shrewsbury, on Wednesday, December 10, at 11am.

No flowers by request, donations if desired to Hospice at Home and Marie Curie Cancer Care.

All inquiries to
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email: hja@oswestryschool.org.uk
www.oswestryschool.org.uk

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Mazda3 a genuine player

By Graham Breeze

Mazda has really stepped up a gear in the last couple of years and the new Mazda 3 hatchback is probably the best of an impressive model range.

The company has been producing cars that are well made, well priced and fun to drive and the 2.0litre 120ps SE L-Nav tested is a first class example of the progress being made – and is as good as anything in its class.

And that's saying a lot because sitting in the opposition camp you will find Ford Focus, Vauxhall Astra, VW Golf and Kia Ceed so the competition is fierce.

Three main trim grades split the Mazda 3 range. The range starts with an SE, then SE-L, the top-spec is Sport, while adding sat-nav to your car upgrades it to a 'Nav' variant, hence the test car an SE-L Nav.



Mazda's recent success hinges on its 'SkyActiv' engineering technology, which focuses on high-tech manufacturing methods and reduced numbers of components to save weight and improve efficiency and agility.

The technology is really evident in this model as it's lighter, cheaper to run and better to drive than the old one.

Quality hasn't always been Mazda's strong point but things have moved on and the 3 rivals anything in class now with an attractive cabin complete with dense, soft-touch plastics on most of the dashboard.

The well equipped SE L-Nav gets rear parking sensors, Bi-Xenon headlights complete with impressive automatic levelling and cleaning, LED daytime running lights, front fogs and privacy glass.

Technology

Inside there's heated seats and dual control climate control air conditioning. You get Mazda's own navigation system, an adjustable speed limiter, cruise control, rain sensing wipers and dusk sensing lights too.

I'm a big fan of Mazda's infotainment technology and all functions are easily accessed using a seven-inch colour touchscreen that sits on top of the dashboard, or via a controller mounted between the front seats.

You should have no trouble getting comfortable up front as there's a wide range of seat and steering wheel adjustments available. The dipping roofline make things a bit tight in the back for three though.

Boot space is competitive and the 3 easily passed the golf club test. Rear seats fold almost flat and lie flush with the boot floor



'Quality hasn't always been Mazda's strong point but things have moved on and the 3 rivals anything in class.'

but there are more spacious options in this class.

Front and side vision is fine but drivers will find that narrow rear windows annoyingly inhibit views.

The 1988cc engine produces 120ps at 6,000rpm and you can expect to get 55.4mpg on the combined cycle while only producing 119g/km of emissions. There's 0-62mph in 8.9seconds and a top speed of 121mph.

All versions come with six airbags, stability control and a tyre pressure-monitoring

system. The 3 also achieved a maximum five-star rating in Euro NCAP crash tests.

Handling is OK but if I'm being really picky I'd have to say there are better performers in the class. There's some body roll and quite a bit of road noise too.

The test car had an on-the-road price of £19,395 but with metallic paint, leather interior and safety pack that price jumped up to over £23,000.

There's a lot of competitors in this sector but the Mazda3 is a genuine player and well worth the money.

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Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the ŠKODA Fabia range: Urban 36.7 (7.7) to 68.9 (4.1), Extra Urban 54.3 (5.2) to 94.2 (3.0), Combined 45.6 (6.2) to 83.1 (3.4). CO₂ emissions 148 to 88g/km. Standard EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

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Drivetime



Emma joins team at Arthurs

A new sales administrator has joined award-winning Vauxhall dealer Arthurs of Oswestry.

She is Emma Faulkner, 23, whose recruitment follows a successful year for new and used car sales from the Lower Brook Street dealership.

David Goldthorpe, Arthurs of

Oswestry's sales manager, said: "The sales administration team is the backbone of a car sales department and an essential part of the business.

"We are fortunate to have many committed employees and our senior sales administrator Barbara Barrow has coped very well with a substantial increase in car sales.

"However, it was clear we had to find someone suitable to assist Bar-

bara with her increasing workload and Arthurs is delighted to welcome Emma who has settled in very well as part of the Oswestry team."

Emma, who graduated from Aberystwyth University, is a farmer's daughter from West Felton. She is a member of Whittington and Oswestry Young Farmers.

Pictured: Emma's at home in a Vauxhall.

Kristian takes top spot for his skills in national awards

A Shropshire vehicle damage assessor is celebrating after winning a top national award for his skills.

Kristian Griffiths works at the Furrows dealership in Harlescote Lane, in Shrewsbury, and he has now been named as Ford's Vehicle Damage Assessor of the Year 2014.

"I'm absolutely delighted to have won and I just can't believe that I've been chosen from the huge number of people who entered from the entire network of Ford accident repair centres across the UK," said Kristian.

"It's an incredible honour, and I'm really proud that my skills have been recognised in such a high profile way."

Kristian is one of two vehicle dam-

age assessors at Furrows of Shrewsbury, and has worked for the company for 15 months.

Accident Repair Centre Manager, Alan Clavin, said: "To enter the awards, Kristian was asked to put together an estimate based on images and information supplied by Ford.

"And not only did Kristian complete an excellent assessment, he also gave up his own time to put the entry together.

"He's very enthusiastic about his role, and we are very proud of his efforts here at Furrows.

"Kristian's success is even more impressive as over 125 main Ford dealer accident repair centres and a number of independent Ford-approved centres were all invited to enter the award,

so he beat off strong competition to take the top award."

Kristian received his award at Ford's annual accident repair centre event - Impact - held at the Ricoh Arena, in Coventry. The event included a trade fair in Ford's supplier village as well as a conference and the presentation of Ford's Excellence Awards.

Dave Reece, Ford Collision Project Manager, said: "We had a wide range of industry speakers on the day, and as ever, all our exhibitors took up the challenge to make the trade fair fun for everyone, so it really was a great event."

Pictured: Kristian Griffiths (centre) receives his award from Stuart Myles from Audatex and Dave Phatak from Ford Motor Company



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| 13 (13) | KIA RIO 1.4 Ecodynamic 2. 5dr, Electric Blue..... | £11,850 |
| 13 (13) | PEUGEOT 208 1.6 E-HDI ALLURE, 3-Dr, Virtual Blue..... | DUE IN |
| 11 (61) | KIA CEE'D 1.6 CRDI Estate, Silver..... | WAS £13,950 NOW £12,750 |
| 11 (61) | NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI, Acenta Black..... | £9,975 |
| 11 (61) | VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.7 CDTI EXCLUSIV, Technical Grey..... | DUE IN |
| 11 (11) | VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 CDTI SRI 6,000 miles, 130 Road Tax..... | £12,950 |
| 10 (10) | BMW 320d M-SPORT TOURER Business Edition, Black..... | £9,950 |
| 10 (10) | RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI EXPRESSION Silver..... | £8,650 |
| 10 (09) | KIA CEE'D 3.1.6 CRDI Estate Phantom Black, Low Mileage..... | £8,650 |
| 09 (09) | FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI ZETEC Chill Silver..... | £7,950 |
| 09 (09) | PEUGEOT 308 1.6 HDI Estate, Silver..... | £7,850 |
| 09 (09) | VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 CDTI Design Silver..... | £6,950 |
| 09 (09) | VAUXHALL CORSA 1.7 CDTI DESIGN 5-dr, Silver..... | £6,750 |
| 08 (58) | VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.3 CDTI BREEZE Steel Blue..... | £4,500 |
| 08 (58) | MINI COOPER 1.6 D (Chilli Pack) Astro Black..... | £8,950 |
| 08 (58) | VOLKSWAGEN JETTA 2.0 TDI SPORT, Lovely Condition..... | £7,850 |
| 08 (08) | FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDCI ZETEC, Metallic Green..... | £6,950 |
| 08 (08) | VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.9 TDI MATCH, Reflex Silver..... | £7,850 |
| 07 (57) | MINI COOPER 1.6 D Chilli Red / Chequered Roof..... | £8,950 |
| 07 (07) | VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.9 TDI SPORT, Shadow Blue..... | DUE IN |
| 07 (07) | VOLKSWAGEN TOURAN 1.9TDi S, Shadow Blue, 7 Seats..... | £7,850 |

Petrol Selection

| | | |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 13 (13) | KIA RIO 2.1.4 in Blaze Red..... | £9,975 |
| 12 (12) | KIA PICANTO 1.0 AIR, Bright Silver..... | £7,450 |
| 11 (61) | VOLKSWAGEN MOVE UPI 5-Dr in Red..... | £6,950 |
| 11 (11) | HONDA JAZZ 1.4 ES 5-dr, Grey, 3,700 miles..... | £9,650 |
| 10 (10) | VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 Turbo, Black..... | WAS £11,450 NOW £10,450 |
| 10 (10) | VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SRi Technical Grey..... | WAS £11,650 NOW £10,650 |
| 10 (10) | NEW RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE 1.6i 16V, 6,000 miles, WAS £10,250 NOW £9,250 | |
| 10 (09) | TOYOTA YARIS 1.3 VVTi 5-dr, Grey..... | £7,450 |
| 09 (09) | KIA PICANTO 2.1.1, ONLY 7,000 miles, Black..... | £5,450 |
| 09 (09) | HYUNDAI H0 1.1 ES, 5-dr, Blue, 11,000 miles..... | £5,650 |
| 09 (09) | HYUNDAI H0 1.1 ES, 5-dr Red, 16,000 miles..... | £5,450 |

| | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 09 (59) | FIAT PANDA ACTIVE Eco, Silver..... | £4,950 |
| 08 (58) | HYUNDAI MATRIX 1.8 GSi Black..... | £3,650 |
| 08 (58) | NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 Acenta Cayman Blue..... | £8,750 |
| 08 (08) | VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 CLUB, 5-dr, Metro Blue..... | £4,650 |
| 08 (57) | TOYOTA AYGO Platinum..... | £3,950 |
| 04 (54) | FORD FIESTA 1.4 FLAME 5dr Blue..... | £3,950 |
| 07 (07) | FORD KA 70 STYLE Silver..... | £5,250 |
| 06 (56) | PEUGEOT 307 1.6 S, 5dr, Blue..... | £2,450 |
| 06 (56) | SUZUKI SWIFT 1.5 GLX 5-dr, Kashmir Blue..... | £5,250 |
| 06 (56) | PEUGEOT 207 SE 16v 5-dr, Silver Grey 9,000 miles..... | £7,450 |
| 05 (55) | RENAULT CLIO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE 5-Dr in Flame Red..... | DUE IN |
| 05 (55) | FORD FIESTA 2.0 ST, Black..... | DUE IN |
| 04 (04) | AUDI A3 2.0 FSI SPORT Red..... | £5,850 |
| 04 (04) | MINI ONE 1.6 3-dr (Pepper Pack), Blue, Immaculate..... | £4,650 |

4x4 Selection

| | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 11 (11) | KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-3 AWD, Black..... | £15,850 |
| 10 (10) | KIA SPORTAGE 2.0CRDI XS 4WD Phantom Black..... | £10,450 |
| 08 (58) | LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2 TD4 GS, Black..... | £12,450 |
| 08 (58) | KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI XS..... | £10,850 |
| 08 (08) | TOYOTA RAV4 2.0 XT-3 Black..... | £8,950 |
| 08 (08) | SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 1.6 ATTITUDE 3-DR, SILVER..... | £6,950 |
| 07 (57) | SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 1.6 VTI+ 3-dr, Red..... | £6,750 |
| 07 (57) | KIA SORENTO 2.5 CRDI XS, Silver..... | £9,850 |
| 07 (07) | SUZUKI JIMNY J1X+ Black/Grey..... | £5,950 |
| 07 (07) | LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2.2 TD4 GS, Santorini Black..... | £11,250 |
| 06 (55) | LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2.0 TD4 FREESTYLE 3-dr..... | £5,650 |
| 06 (06) | SUZUKI JIMNY 1.3 J1X Silver 26,000 miles only..... | £4,500 |
| 05 (05) | SUZUKI JIMNY 1.3 J1X WTS Bright Red..... | £4,250 |
| 04 (54) | KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 XE 4WD, Blue / Grey..... | £1,850 |

Automatics

| | | |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 11 (61) | PEUGEOT 308 1.6 HDI ACCESS SEMI AUTOMATIC, Vapor Grey..... | DUE IN |
| 11 (61) | VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SE AUTOMATIC, 11,000 Miles..... | £6,850 |
| 11 (61) | KIA PICANTO 2.1.25 AUTOMATIC, Blaze Red, 6,000 miles..... | £7,850 |

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|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 63 | HYUNDAI i10 ACTIVE 15k, Red..... | £6995 | 54 | FORD FIESTA FLAME 5-dr, Silver..... | £3395 |
| 62 | FORD FIESTA 1.6 ZETEC S TDCI, Diesel..... | £7995 | 03 | VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8, 7 Seats..... | £1495 |
| 11 | MINI ONE, Pepper Pack, Red, Lady Owner (DA11 DZY)..... | SOLD | 03 | CITROEN C5 1.8 Blue, Superb Throughout..... | £1750 |
| 59 | RENAULT CLIO DYNAMIQUE TCE1.2 5-dr, Grey Metallic, 40K..... | £5475 | 52 | RENAULT CLIO DYNAMIQUE, Blue..... | £995 |
| 59 | FIAT PANDA ACTIVE ECO 5-dr, Blue, 18k..... | £3995 | 52 | VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 2.0 DCI Diesel..... | £1995 |
| 09 | JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.2 Diesel Auto Black..... | £7959 | 52 | JAGUAR S TYPE AUTO Leather, Low Miles..... | £4395 |
| 57 | FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 2.0 TDCI Black..... | £3750 | 02 | CITROEN PICASSO Blue..... | £1295 |
| 57 | SSANGYONG REXTON 270 Diesel..... | £5395 | 02 | RENAULT CLIO 1.2 Red..... | £995 |
| 57 | FORD KA Blue..... | £2995 | 51 | CITROEN PICASSO, Very Clean..... | £1200 |
| 57 | TOYOTA AURIS T3 VVT-1 5-dr, Red..... | £4695 | V | JAGUAR XK8 Low Mileage, Silver, MUST BE SEEN | POA |
| 07 | RENAULT CLIO CAMPUS, Silver..... | £2995 | T | MINI COOPER Blue/Union Jack Roof..... | £2495 |
| 07 | PEUGEOT 207 1.6 HDI, Black..... | £3795 | P | RANGE ROVER 4.6 HSE AUTO Leather, Excellent Cond..... | £2695 |
| 56 | VAUXHALL VECTRA Exclusive 1.8 Red Metallic..... | £3450 | | | |
| 06 | SUZUKI JIMNY 4x4..... | £4695 | | | |
| 55 | JAGUAR S TYPE 2.7 Diesel, Auto, Leather, Grey, MUST BE SEEN | £4995 | | | |
| 55 | PEUGEOT 307 XSI 2.0 HDI Diesel, Bronze Met, Leather..... | £4395 | | | |
| 55 | PEUGEOT 206 1.1 Blue, 30k..... | £2795 | | | |
| 05 | MERCEDES E 270 AVANT GARDE, Diesel, Auto, (Private Plate Option)..... | £4995 | | | |
| 54 | RENAULT MEGANE SCENIC 1.5 Diesel..... | £2595 | 09 | CITROEN BERLINGO (NEW SHAPE) DIESEL..... | £4500 + VAT |
| | | | 54 | CITROEN BERLINGO..... | £1450 + VAT |



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2010 10 LANDROVER DISCOVERY 4 3.0 TDV6 HSE Auto 7 seater, Sat Nav, leather, Metallic Silver, 55,000 miles **£28,999**



2009 59 MINI ONE 1.4 3-door Manual. Metallic Black, 52,000 miles **£5,999**



2007 07 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 3 TDV6 GS Auto. Metallic Black, full Black leather, Privacy glass, Chrome pack, Side bars, 62,000 miles, FSH **£15,499**



2007 07 VOLKSWAGEN FOX 1.2 3-door. Silver Metallic, 76,000 miles **£2,999**



2011 11 NISSAN JUKE ACCENTA 1.6 5-door with Premium Pack. White, 1 Owner, 28,000 miles, Sat Nav, FSH **£10,999**



2008 08 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 3 TDV6 GS Automatic, Metallic Grey, 52,000 miles, FSH **£16,999**



2011 61 AUDI A3 S-Line 2.0 TDi 170bhp 3-door, Manual. Metallic Black, Sat Nav, Bose Half Leather Heated Seats, 50,000 miles, FSH **£14,499**



2011 61 AUDI A3 2.0 TDi Sportback Black Edition Manual. White, Half Leather Bose, 30,000 miles, 1 Owner **£16,499**



2007 57 VOLVO XC90 2.4 D5 SE SPORT Geartronic. Black Metallic with Ivory Leather, Rear Park Assist, 60,000 miles, AC, FSH, Side Steps **£14,499**



2005 05 SUBARU FORESTER XT 2.5 Manual. Metallic Silver, 58,000 miles, Leather, Sunroof **£4,999**



2008 08 LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2 TD4 S Manual. Metallic Blue, 18" Alloy Wheels, Facelift Front, 54,000 miles, FSH **£10,999**



2010 10 AUDI A5 3.0 TDi QUATTRO S-Line Coupe 6-speed Manual. Bright Red, full leather, FSH, 48,000 miles **£19,999**



2008 08 BMW 116i SE 5-door, Manual, Metallic Silver, 58,000 miles, FSH **£7,499**

| | | | |
|---------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 2010 10 | AUDI A5 3.0 TDi QUATTRO S-LINE | Coupe 6-speed Manual. Bright Red, Full Leather, FSH, 48,000 miles | £19,999 |
| 2011 61 | AUDI A3 S-LINE 2.0 TDi 170bhp | 3-Door, Manual, Metallic Black, Sat Nav, Bose Half Leather Heated Seats, 50,000 miles, FSH | £14,499 |
| 2011 61 | AUDI A3 2.0 TDi Sportback Black Edition | Manual. White, Half Leather Bose, 30,000 miles, 1 Owner | £16,499 |
| 2012 62 | BMW 320d M Sport | Saloon 6 speed, Manual. White, Red Leather, 19" Alloy Wheels, 1 Owner, Only 15,000 miles, FSH | SOLD |
| 2008 08 | BMW 116i SE | 5-door, Manual, Metallic Silver, 58,000 miles, FSH | £7,499 |
| 2011 11 | CHEVROLET LACETTI ESTATE | 1.8, Automatic, 1 Owner | £4,999 |
| 2007 57 | CITROEN C4 1.6 HDi | Hatchback Metallic Blue, 71,000 miles | £3,499 |
| 2009 59 | CITROEN C4 VTR+ HDi | 5-door. Red, 60,200 miles | £5,799 |
| 2004 54 | CITROEN C2 GT 1.6 | 3-door. Metallic Silver, 75,000 miles | £2,999 |
| 2011 11 | CITROEN C3 PICASSO 1.6 VTR+ HDi | Blue Metallic, 20,000 miles, 1 Owner, £30 a Year Road Tax | £7,999 |
| 2011 11 | CITROEN C3 PICASSO 1.6 HDi VTR+ | 5-door, Blue Metallic, One Owner, FSH, 19,000 miles, £30 a year tax | £7,999 |
| 2009 09 | FIAT BRAVO 1.4 | 5-door, Dynamique, Manual, 66,000 miles | £4,299 |
| 2010 60 | FIAT 500 CONVERTIBLE 1.2 LOUNGE | Manual, Metallic Black, Red Hood, 31,000 miles | £8,499 |
| 2008 08 | FORD FOCUS 1.8 ZETEC | Metallic Blue, Manual, 37,000 miles, FSH | £5,499 |
| 2011 11 | FORD FIESTA ZETEC 1.6 TDCi | 5 Door, Bright Blue, 21,000 miles, £20 a Year Road Tax | £8,499 |
| 2010 60 | FORD FIESTA 1.4 TDCi | 3-door, Bright Red, 40,000 miles, Cheap Tax, FSH, 1 Owner | £6,999 |
| 2008 08 | FORD FIESTA 1.2 ZETEC | 3-door. Metallic Red, Manual, 63,000 miles | £3,999 |
| 2008 08 | FORD FIESTA 1.4 | 3-door. Metallic Blue, 49,000 miles | £3,999 |
| 2011 61 | FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC | 5-door. Metallic Red, 18,000 miles, one owner | SOLD |
| 2006 55 | FORD FOCUS C-MAX ZTEC 1.8 TDCi | Blue Metallic, Alloy Wheels, Air Con | £3,499 |
| 2004 04 | FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDCi ZETEC | 5-door Manual. Metallic Green | £2,499 |
| 2009 59 | FORD KA 1.3 ZETEC | 3-door. Metallic Black, 52,000 miles | £4,499 |
| 2009 59 | HONDA ACCORD 2.2 CDTi ES GT | Estate Automatic. 51,000 miles, Metallic Grey, FSH | £10,499 |
| 2006 06 | HONDA CRV 2.2 CDTi Sport 4x4 | Metallic Blue, Alloys | £4,999 |
| 2007 57 | HYUNDAI COUPE S111 | Manual. Metallic Blue, Leather Heated Seats, 39,000 miles | SOLD |
| 2010 60 | HYUNDAI 130 PREMIUM 1.6 CRDi | Estate Manual, Metallic Blue, 33,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH | £8,499 |
| 2008 58 | HYUNDAI GETZ | 5-door Manual. Metallic Blue, 52,000 miles | £3,499 |
| 2010 10 | KIA SPORTAGE XS 2.0 CDTi 4x4 | Manual Metallic Silver, 35,000 miles, FSH | £9,999 |
| 2007 07 | LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 3 TDV6 GS AUTO | Metallic Black, full Black leather, Privacy glass, Chrome pack, Side bars, 62,000 miles, FSH | £15,499 |
| 2008 08 | LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 3 TDV6 GS AUTOMATIC | Metallic Grey, 52,000 miles, FSH | £16,999 |
| 2010 10 | LANDROVER DISCOVERY 4 3.0 TDV6 HSE | Auto 7 seater, Sat Nav, leather, Metallic Silver, 55,000 miles | £28,999 |
| 2012 62 | LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.2D PURE | MANUAL, in White, leather, 36,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH | £25,999 |
| 2008 08 | LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2 TD4 S | Manual. Metallic Blue, 18" Alloy Wheels, Facelift Front, 54,000 miles, FSH | £10,999 |
| 2009 59 | MINI ONE 1.4 | 3-door Manual. Metallic Black, 52,000 miles | £5,999 |
| 2011 11 | NISSAN JUKE ACCENTA 1.6 | 5-door with Premium Pack. White, 1 Owner, 28,000 miles, Sat Nav, FSH | £10,999 |
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| 2008 58 | PEUGEOT 308S 1.6 HDi SW ESTATE 110 PS | Silver Metallic, Air Conditioning, Roof Rails | £5,499 |
| 2004 04 | PEUGEOT 206 S 1.4 | 5-door. Grey Metallic, 39,000 miles | £2,499 |
| 2010 10 | RENAULT CLIO 4 MUSIC 1.2 | 3-door. Metallic Black, 24,000 miles | £5,499 |
| 2007 57 | RENAULT KANGOO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE | WHEEL CHAIR ACCESS VAN 24,000 miles, electric winch, Metallic Blue | £3,499 |
| 2010 10 | RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 | 5-door. Blue, 1 Owner, 21,000 miles | £6,999 |
| 2009 59 | RENAULT TWINGO 1.2 FREEWAY | 3-door, Red, 2 Owners, Only 28,600 miles, Service History | £3,999 |
| 2005 55 | SEAT ALTEA 1.6 | 5-door. Manual, Metallic Red, 51,000 miles | £3,999 |
| 2010 10 | SEAT IBIZA 1.6 SPORT DSG | 3-door, Red, 62,000 miles | £5,999 |
| 2005 05 | SUBARU FORESTER XT 2.5 | Manual. Metallic Silver, 58,000 miles, Leather, Sunroof | £4,999 |
| 2011 61 | TOYOTA HILUX INVINCIBLE 3.0 D4D | Double Cab Manual. Metallic Black, 1 Owner, Only 41,000 miles, FSH | £14,499 +VAT |
| 2007 57 | TOYOTA YARIS T3 D-4D | 5-door diesel. Red, Alloy Wheels, 28,000 miles, £30 a Year Road Tax | £4,999 |
| 2009 59 | VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 DESIGN | 5-door. Metallic Silver, 63,000 miles, FSH | £5,499 |
| 2011 11 | VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.7 CDTi EXCLUSIVE | 5-door. Green, One Owner, 30,000 miles, FSH | £8,299 |
| 2008 08 | VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 CDTi BREEZE | 3-door, Manual. Metallic Black, Cheap Road Tax, 70,000 miles | £3,999 |
| 2011 11 | VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTi EXCLUSIVE | 5-door. Silver Metallic, 34,000 miles, One Owner, FSH | £8,999 |
| 2006 56 | VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.2E | 3-door. Blue, 52,800 miles, FSH | £3,499 |
| 2007 07 | VOLKSWAGEN FOX 1.2 | 3-door. Silver Metallic, 76,000 miles | £2,999 |
| 2007 57 | VOLVO XC90 2.4 D5 SE SPORT | Geartronic. Black Metallic with Ivory Leather, Rear Park Assist, 60,000 miles, AC, FSH, Side Steps | £14,499 |

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Drivetime

Aiming to make mark

By Ian Donaldson

Sometimes being first – or second or third – isn't the competitive advantage it's cracked up to be. Now and again it's good to follow along behind, and learn.

Which is what Fiat must hope has happened with the new 500X, a relative latecomer to the swelling ranks of what the motor industry calls crossovers.

To you and me, that means a car that looks a bit butch and muscular but really isn't. Like a Ford C-Max or a Peugeot 3008, for instance. Yes, you can have your 500X with a four-wheel drive system that will pull you along a rutted, muddy track. But not even one in ten buyers will pay the premium for this assured forward progress.

No, most people will look at putting this new Fiat outside the front door because it looks like a more grown up, family friendly Fiat 500; the modern and wildly successful interpretation of the properly iconic Fiat 500 from the 'fifties.

This chic little runabout has already spawned the 500L, a four door family car that gives a Fiat 500 family something to grow into when the kids arrive. Trouble is, to these eyes at least, it looks like a bloated pastiche of the original inspiration.

This newest take on the 500 does much better, keeping obvious styling



cues from the original (bulbous front, head and tail light shapes to the fore) while still managing to look like a new model in its own right.

It also arrives in the crossover market late enough to carry technology many rivals will envy, including an (optional) nine speed automatic transmission. On the dash there's a touchscreen that can read incoming

messages on mobile phones and lets the driver reply with pre-programmed responses (perhaps 'go away, I'm driving', for one. Also, more than 100,000 radio stations are but a finger's touch away....

You can pay nearly £26,000 for your 500X when deliveries start in April but hardly anyone will.

Prices start at £14,595 for a 500X

Pop with 1.6 litre petrol engine, with the cheapest four-wheel drive model at £24,095 with a 2.0 litre diesel engine.

Much more popular will be something like a mid-range car with 1.4 litre petrol engine. It shares the roomy body of every 500X and promises decent economy while delivering the peppy performance you hope for. It's

not a sports car (and happily doesn't try to be), but click a little knob from everyday comfort to sport and it turns a little more lively.

The 4x4 model is a touch longer than the front-driven 500X and comes looking a little tougher, with chunky bumpers and a skid plate. It also sits a little higher off the ground, allowing for a little more adventurous off road activity. Both versions share enough room for grown-ups in the rear and a decent sized boot.

Out on the roads of northern Italy the 1.4 litre petrol powered 500X proved a mildly spirited drive but, more importantly for the role it will have to adopt, it was a peaceful place to travel.

Fiat has worked hard at keeping noise out of the interior and the 500X must be one of the most hushed cars in its class.

Even with a diesel doing the donkey work there was a barely detectable increase in cabin noise.

The engine produces the same power as its smaller petrol sibling but (in the nature of diesels) a lot more low down punch and the prospect of improved fuel economy.

The petrol 500X showed 47mpg after a briskly driven couple of hours on everything from busy Turin streets to a dash along the autostrada with some typically Italian side roads (narrow, twisty) thrown in. Not a bad result.

And good enough to keep the new 500X in the running for sensible new family transport with a dash of style.

Fine is a threat to emergencies

One in 10 drivers would not go into a bus lane to let a fire engine, ambulance or police car through – even if sirens were wailing and beacons flashing. That rises to one in six in London, an AA Populus poll reveals.

A fear of fines means that, although 13 per cent of the 18,026 AA members surveyed would not stop in a yellow box junction to allow emergency vehicles to pass, nearly one in five Londoners wouldn't. London is the only part of the UK where yellow box junctions have been enforced with cameras.

Many UK cities fine drivers £60 (£30 if paid in 14 days) for entering a bus lane. In London, the penalty is £130, halved for early payment. Drivers in London face the same if they stop in a yellow box junction.

More drivers are prepared to carry out riskier manoeuvres to help emergency vehicles on their way, with 48 per cent prepared to go through red lights and 31 per cent to exceed the speed limit, although they lay themselves open to prosecution by the police.

Overall, 39 per cent wouldn't worry about bus lanes, red lights, box junctions, speed limits, or pulling up on to the pavement if an emergency vehicle needed to get past.

"Drivers think: 'But for the grace of God go we – because, the next time, that emergency vehicle could be for us'. And that is why most AA members and other drivers will risk the chance of a penalty charge to save a life," says Edmund King, the AA's president. In return, too many bus lane, yellow box junction and moving traffic offence enforcers will seize the opportunity to dish out a penalty. Inevitably, some drivers won't take the risk and it only takes one to block and hold up an ambulance or fire engine."

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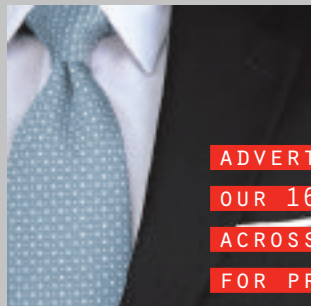
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New engine for the Swift

By Graham Breeze

Suzuki is determined to strengthen its UK position with the January arrival of a new and much more efficient engine for Swift.

The company has recognised opposition growth in this lower end of the market with Fiesta and Corsa both boasting efficient one-litre alternatives and launched a new 1.2-litre petrol unit incorporating Suzuki's latest technology, utilising twin fuel injectors for improved fuel economy.

That means fewer trips to the petrol pump, startling fuel figures and emission levels lower than the vehicle excise charge level.

The new technology, known as Dualjet, has resulted in Swift boasting 65.7mpg on the combined fuel consumption cycle, representing a 16 per cent improvement over the current petrol engine.

Another benefit of Dualjet technology is reduced CO2 emissions of 99g/km, meaning that Swift models with this engine are now exempt from VED (Vehicle Excise Duty) charges.

Outwardly the test car looked no different and to be honest it was impossible to tell it apart from the current petrol model – the only difference will be in the driver's pocket.

When the car arrives in showrooms in January it will cost you an extra £500 but owners will recoup the extra spend pretty

quickly. Add the money you save on visits to the pumps to the £175 saving on excise licence costs and it makes sense to choose the new Dualjet model.

It's a complex system but the new technology positions the fuel injectors closer to the engine inlet valves allows for a finer fuel mixture which provides a more effective transfer into the cylinder. Internal modifications to the engine include the use of a new type of inlet port and combustion chamber with other mechanical parts also modified to reduce frictional losses and provide smoother running.

The maximum power output is 90PS versus 94PS for the current petrol engine with a slightly increased torque figure of 120Nm at 4,400rpm versus 118Nm at 4,800rpm.

Other modifications include slight alterations to gear ratios for greater flexibility on the road, and the addition of Engine Auto Stop Start (EASS).

The new Dualjet technology for Swift will initially be available as an optional engine choice on SZ4 two wheel drive models.

There are, of course, better equipped opponents to Swift and while you get what you pay for with this model inside the cabin there's a dynamic feel and attractive black seats with colour-coding stripes.

Global sales of Swift have now passed the four million mark since launch in 2004 – 18 months after the celebration of three million units. Launched in the UK in May 2005; more than 90,000 Swifts have been sold and now account for around 30 per cent of the UK sales mix.

Since June 2014 all Swift models are fitted as standard with LED daytime running



'It was impossible to tell it apart from the current petrol model – the only difference will be in the driver's pocket.'

lights and front fog lights. A gear shift indicator was also added on manual models to help aid fuel efficiency as well as a Tyre Pressure Monitor System.

Swift is available in four clearly defined specification grades, SZ2, SZ3, SZ4 plus Swift Sport; in addition to seven airbags and ESP as standard, SZ2 has front passenger airbag deactivation facility, electric front windows, remote central door locking with deadlocks, electrically adjustable and heated door mirrors.

There's a MP3/WMA compatible CD

tuner with USB port and steering wheel mounted audio controls. SZ3 adds air conditioning, 16-inch alloy wheels, an integrated audio unit with bluetooth connectivity, including music streaming facility.

Since June, SZ4 models are equipped with navigation and DAB digital radio as standard which adds to the already high specification that includes automatic air conditioning, electric rear windows, rear privacy glass, push button keyless start, automatic headlamps, cruise control and mirrors with integrated turn indicators.

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59 Reg Ford Fiesta TDCi Edge



09 Reg Fiat Punto 1.4 Dynamic



12 Reg Seat Ibiza 1.2 S Copa 3dr



13 Reg Ford Ka



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38 Ladies are moving up table after battling win

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, December 4, 2014

ON-SONG Oswestry ladies moved back up to third in the Cheshire Women's Hockey League with a 2-1 win at basement side Wilmslow III.

Goals from Freya Thompson and Tracey Royle earned a third straight win for their side who have lost just twice in 11 outings, and they now look to keep up the good work at home to third bottom Cheshire Ladies on Saturday.

Oswestry men, without any action last weekend, return to duty in the West Midlands League division one on Saturday with a home game with Pershore.

Lying third, just two points off the summit, Oswestry will be mindful they cannot afford any slips as their visitors are just one place and one point below after their 5-3 beating of Evesham last weekend.

ENER-G Midland League Hockey Association

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Old Wulfrunians | 8 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 40 | 10 | 21 |
| Bloxwich | 8 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 41 | 10 | 19 |
| Oswestry | 8 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 45 | 15 | 19 |
| Pershore | 8 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 32 | 23 | 18 |
| Leamington | 8 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 25 | 19 | 12 |
| Whitchurch | 9 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 21 | 33 | 12 |
| Newtown | 9 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 18 | 24 | 11 |
| Evesham | 8 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 18 | 31 | 9 |
| Droitwich | 8 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 13 | 30 | 7 |
| Barlaston | 8 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 14 | 43 | 4 |
| Yardley | 8 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 10 | 39 | 0 |

Cheshire Women's Lge

DIVISION 1

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Sale | 11 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 59 | 7 | 33 |
| Wrexham G..... | 11 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 46 | 13 | 28 |
| South Cheshire .. | 11 | 9 | 0 | 2 | 51 | 9 | 27 |
| Winnington Park | 11 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 63 | 26 | 24 |
| Chester II | 11 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 38 | 30 | 19 |
| Macclesfield | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 21 | 34 | 14 |
| Alderley Edge II .. | 11 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 18 | 27 | 13 |
| Northop Hall | 11 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 28 | 40 | 13 |
| Otton | 11 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 14 | 33 | 7 |
| Bowdon IV | 11 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 15 | 64 | 7 |
| Sale II | 10 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 11 | 45 | 3* |
| Knutsford | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 8 | 44 | 0 |

DIVISION 2

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Neston SW..... | 11 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 37 | 28 |
| Lymm II | 11 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 37 | 12 | 28 |
| Oswestry | 11 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 24 | 12 | 25 |
| Goiborne | 11 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 16 | 8 | 25 |
| Alderley Edge III | 11 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 18 | 20 | 15 |
| Warrington | 11 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 17 | 15 | 14* |
| Triton | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 16 | 20 | 14 |
| Crewe Vagrants II | 11 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 21 | 25 | 10 |
| Macclesfield II .. | 11 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 13 | 24 | 8 |
| Chester III | 11 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 15 | 33 | 7 |
| Deeside Rmbrs II | 11 | 2 | 0 | 9 | 9 | 24 | 6 |
| Wilmslow II | 11 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 29 | 6 |

Berriew are warned to get a grip

MANAGER Dave Jones admits his Berriew side could find themselves deep in basement danger in the Spar Mid Wales League division one unless they shape up.

Last weekend's 3-1 home loss to fellow strugglers Tywyn Brynrcrug left Berriew languishing in the lower reaches of the table, and with plenty to ponder.

They now look for a change in fortune in the first round of the league cup on Friday night when they host Kerry, and former Welshpool boss Jones is banking on improvements on the pitch.

"We need to get some consistency very quickly indeed or we are going to be in trouble," he warned. "To lose to Tywyn was a very disappointing result and performance, particularly after such a good showing at Welshpool the week before."

"We were awful in the first half and deservedly 1-0 down at half time. We improved in the second half but were caught on the break after an hour to go 2-0 down."

"We responded immediately and pulled one back through a great Steffan Rogers strike from 25 yards. We then had a good spell of possession and pressure but were caught again with five minutes left when their centre forward ran through on goal and finished well."

Callum leads way as Llanfair hit high five

YOUNG sub Callum Foulkes scored twice as Llanfair United booked their ticket for the quarter-finals of the Montgomeryshire Cup with a 5-1 passage against Montgomery.

Chris Gethin had given Llanair the lead and they were two up before half time courtesy of Paul Griffiths.

Montgomery pulled one back after the break but another Gethin goal restored the two goal advantage.

Youngster Foulkes then came off the bench to seal a 5-1 victory with a brace, his first goals for the first team with two neat finishes.

It was a good weekend for Llanfair's second string who also progressed to the last 16 of the Emrys Morgan Cup courtesy of a thrilling 5-4 success at Aberdyfi.

In the fourth round, they will now visit Llanfyllin Town who pulled off a terrific 4-1 victory at high flying Hay St Mary's.

Penalty

Llanfair had to come from behind before clinching their win, Iwan Jones firing a first equaliser with a long range effort before a Toby Evans penalty made it 2-2 after the hosts had gone in front again.

However, Aberdyfi once again took the

lead, this time from the penalty spot to put them 3-2 up at half time and extended their lead to 4-2 after the interval.

However, the visitors responded well and Sam Thorp and Toby Evans brought it back to 4-4 with 10 minutes to go.

Aberdyfi then hit the bar and post as well as drawing save after save from Mark Richards, but Llanfair clinched the win after taking the lead for the first time through Daryl Griffiths who converted after fine work down the left by Toby Evans.

Emrys Morgan Cup round three results: Aberaeron 0 Machynlleth 6, Aberdyfi 4 Llanfair 5, Crannog 5 Carno 3, Dewi Stars 1 Car-

digan 5, Hay St Marys 1 Llanfyllin 4, Lampeter 3 Bettws 5, Llandrindod Wells 3 Dolgellau 5, Llandysul 3 Presteigne 3 (Llandysul won 5-4 on pens), Llanfechain 2 Bow Street 3, Llangedwyn 2 Pencader 6, New Quay 5 Felinfach 2, Newcastle Emlyn 5 Caersws 1, St Dogmaels 5 Padarn 2, St Harmon 3 Llanidloes 3 (St Harmon won 5-2 on pens).

Draw for the fourth round: Bettws v Machynlleth, Bow Street v New Quay, Cardigan Town v St Harmon, Crannog v Llandysul, Llanfyllin Town v Llanfair United, Newcastle Emlyn v St Dogmaels. Pencader v Gulsfield, Rhayader Town or Aberystwyth University v Llandrindod Wells.

Barton bags goal No 15 as Guils net the points

DANNY Barton's 15th goal of the season saw Guilsfield cement second place in the Cymru Alliance table, just three points behind the leaders, with a hard-earned 1-0 win at Powys rivals Rhayader Town.

The Guils had to battle all the way in a scrappy affair on a poor pitch at the Weirglodd, but took the spoils when Barton slotted home a Mark Davies cross nine minutes into the second half.

Mike Parry's side, who now have a five point cushion on the third placed side, had chances to have been ahead in the first half, only to be met by some smart saves from keeper Luke Evans.

The home stopper pulled off a terrific stop after just five minutes to keep out a James Henderson header, while also denying Adam Jenkins and Gareth Jones.

But the breakthrough came in the second period when a scuffed kick upfield from keeper Dave Littleford found Davies who rounded his marker wide out before squaring for Barton to steer into an empty net.

Guilsfield, however, had to dig in, with their defence having been disrupted with James O'Reilly missing through illness and they survived a penalty in the 70th minute.

Callum Bromley was ruled to have handled a shot near the goal line but Rhayader player boss Dylan McPhee saw his spot kick well saved by Littleford.

The villagers now take a break from the league when they visit Llandrindod Wells in the last eight of the league cup on Saturday.

It was a good day for Oswestry-based caretaker boss Mike Barton whose Llanidloes Town side boosted hopes of survival in the Cymru Alliance after seeing off Flint Town United 3-0 at Victoria Avenue.

After recent improvements, the Daffs finally put much needed points on the board with skipper Jack Berrington giving his side the lead right on half time after the game had been delayed for 10 minutes after a visiting player suffered a serious knee injury.

Gareth Mansell then doubled the advantage after the interval with a free kick that broke the net before Jamie Breese completed the first win for caretaker manager Barton when rounding the keeper following a Karl Seliarts' through ball.

Saturday's fixtures

Huws Gray Cymru Alliance (2.30 unless stated): Buckley Town v Conwy Borough, Caersws v Rhydymwyn, Denbigh Town v Rhayader Town, Flint Town Utd v Caernarfon Town, Holyhead Hotspur v Llanidloes Town, Llandudno v Mold Alex, Penycyfe v Porthmadog (2).

Huws Gray Cup quarter-final: Llandrindod Wells v Guilsfield.

Huws Gray Alliance

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Llandudno | 15 | 11 | 2 | 2 | 15 | 35 | 35 |
| Guilsfield | 15 | 10 | 2 | 3 | 37 | 21 | 32 |
| Denbigh T | 15 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 30 | 24 | 27 |
| Caernarfon T | 13 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 44 | 13 | 26 |
| Porthmadog | 15 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 32 | 14 | 26 |
| Buckley Town | 14 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 21 | 27 | 22 |
| Caersws | 14 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 31 | 28 | 23 |
| Flint Town Utd | 16 | 7 | 2 | 7 | 20 | 26 | 23 |
| Holyhead Hotspur | 14 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 20 | 16 | 22 |
| Conwy Borough | 14 | 7 | 2 | 28 | 19 | 19 | 22 |
| Penycyfe | 15 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 29 | 33 | 19 |
| Mold Alex | 15 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 30 | 28 | 18 |
| Rhayader T | 15 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 25 | 23 | 17 |
| Llanidloes T | 15 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 21 | 46 | 7 |
| Llndud Wells | 14 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 13 | 50 | 5 |
| Rhydymwyn T | 14 | 1 | 0 | 13 | 11 | 67 | 0 |

Spar Mid Wales League

DIVISION 1

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|----------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Llanfair Utd..... | 14 | 12 | 2 | 0 | 60 | 24 | 38 |
| Rhosgoboch..... | 15 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 35 | 24 | 31 |
| Llanfyllin..... | 17 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 30 | 28 | 28 |
| Carno..... | 14 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 37 | 21 | 26 |
| Penrhynoch..... | 11 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 28 | 9 | 24 |
| Welshpool..... | 15 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 42 | 33 | 23 |
| Bow Street..... | 13 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 26 | 23 | 22 |
| Llanrhaeadr..... | 11 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 30 | 22 | 20 |
| Waterloo..... | 14 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 31 | 31 | 19 |
| Machynlleth..... | 13 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 23 | 31 | 17 |
| Four Crosses..... | 14 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 23 | 34 | 15 |
| Aberaeron..... | 15 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 28 | 39 | 14 |
| Berriew..... | 16 | 3 | 3 | 10 | 25 | 40 | 12 |
| Montgomery..... | 13 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 18 | 24 | 8 |
| Tywyn/Brynrcrug..... | 13 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 25 | 44 | 8 |
| Aber Uth..... | 12 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 15 | 41 | 3 |

United recover from shaky start to maintain top form

HIGH-FLYING Llanfair United overcame a shaky start to maintain their march at the top of the Spar Mid Wales League division one after storming back to secure a 5-2 home success over Four Crosses at the Mount.

The league leaders had found themselves two goals down after just 15 minutes to goals Gaz Jones and Owain Wilcock, with their unbeaten league record this season looking under real threat.

But they dug deep to turn the game around, pulling back to 2-2 at half time before three second half goals sealed a terrific comeback.

Four Crosses, despite missing some key players, had made the perfect start with two early strikes to deservedly lead, and Wilcock was unlucky not to add another when his excellent shot cannonned back off the bar.

But Llanfair soon reduced the arrears midway through the half when Chris Gethin converted a penalty after James Davies had been brought down by the visiting keeper Ross Fardoe.

Deflected

Davies then levelled matters when heading in a Ross Frame cross, to leave the scores all square at the break and the game very much in the balance.

Crosses were denied straight after the restart when home keeper Lee Andrew pulled off a terrific save from Gaz Jones, and that proved a pivotal moment as United got their noses in front on 63 minutes when Paul Griffiths played in Frame whose shot was deflected by Steve Lalley's clearance and over keeper Fardoe.

Crosses chased an equaliser and went close through Wilcock, but Llion Davies then made it four when his cross-shot somehow looped into the net before Griffiths

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

completed the scoring four minutes from time with a fine strike from outside the box.

Defeat made it a disappointing last few weeks for Four Crosses who will be glad to see the back of November.

Despite being without a number of players, manager Nick Popyk was delighted by the resolve shown by his players, and felt they had enough chances to have stunned the leaders.

"Again we were under strength which has been the story of our season," he said, "You need to have a consistent line-up to push for honours in this league."

"The lads who played today all put in 100 per cent with Gaz Jones and Jordan Gerrard both particularly standing out, and had some of our efforts gone in at the vital times they came things could have been different."

Victory means Llanfair maintained a seven point lead on second placed Rhosgoboch who are now three points clear of LLANSANTFFRAID Village in third after their 2-1 home success against the villagers.

WELSHPOOL Town got back to winning ways with a fine 1-0 home success against Carno, Martyn Ziemann getting the only goal of the game to lift the Lilywhites up to sixth.

the back, and they sealed the win, and their place in the history books, two minutes from time through Morris who broke before lifting the ball over the keeper.

It was not such a good day for Llanrhaeadr's Spar Mid Wales League rivals Penrhynoch who crashed out 5-0 at home to Caerau Ely.

Callum Sainty scored the opener after just five minutes before Rameer Outlaw made it 2-0 with a 24th minute strike. It was 3-0 to the capital city side on 53 minutes when Kieron Joseph scored and Andrew Smith (64) and Jaques Tertois (88) completed the rout while the hosts had Llyr Hughes sent off late on to compound their misery.

Caersws, however, progressed with a 4-0 passage at Cardiff outfit Tiger Bay, Steve Blenkinsop with two of the goals and Jojo Harries and John Owen the others, while the hosts finished with nine men after losing their cool late on.

Newtown avoided any shocks as they saw off lower league FC Nomads of Conna's Quay, the Welsh Premier League side's quality showing as goals from Matthew Hearsey and Sean Evans saw them through.

Eagles' Plate dreams shattered



Where are you going – Kevin Wilford pulls off a tackle to stop the New Brighton fly half in his tracks, with newcomer Tomas Booth in support



On the attack, but Oswestry's forwards just fall short of the New Brighton line

Late try seals fate

OSWESTRY'S hopes of progressing in the Lighting and Building Services Plate were shattered in the second round when they were downed 33-24 by a strong New Brighton side.

Billed as a third team game, the Eagles fielded a mixed age and ability side with senior veterans Kelvin Wilford, Dave Richardson and Steve Jarvis taking to the field alongside the youth of Jon Hughes and Joel Yeap.

Oswestry got off to a slow start, which was not helped by the lack of a meaningful warm-up, and soon found themselves trailing.

The well drilled home side's front eight frequently stole what ball the visitors had in the tackle area, snuffing out their attacking play in the first half, while scoring to take the lead and dominate the first half of the game.

Despite their slow start, Oswestry were always in contention and remained so through some excellent defensive work,

with back row Zak Baldwin managing to prevent the hosts crossing to score with some sacrificial tackling.

The final quarter became a nail-biting event with Oswestry rallying and eventually bringing the score to 26-24 through a Baldwin try, the fourth of the game for the visitors, with five minutes to go.

The phases of play continued as both sides tried to frantically seal their future in the plate; however it was New Brighton who stretched their lead with a converted try in the last play of the game to seal victory

With tries from the experienced James Anderson, Baldwin and Hamish Fuller there was plenty of action, while the return of players to rugby such as Tomas Booth and Neil Jones after several years away from the game was a welcome sight.

Meanwhile, Oswestry Colts won 49-20 at Anselmians Colts in an exciting high scoring affair.

Golf scores from all of the local clubhouses

LLANYMYNECH
Xmas Comp No 5 - Tex-Am Stableford: I Grwell, N Williams, A Jones & P Middleton 96pts; T Thomas, T Maitra, D Jones & J Line 93pts; M Ferguson, D Barbour, J Logsdail & N Morris 93pts.
Xmas Comp No 6 - 4BBB: G Pugh & M Kirkham 43pts (cb); D Reynolds & P Owen 43pts (cb); H Jones & A Williams 43pts (cb).
Xmas Comp No 7 - Am-Am: P Faulkner, P Humphreys, A Don & L Lee 93pts; A Williams, J Clewlow, N Clewlow & H Jones 90pts; M Ferguson, H Barbour, D Barbour & M Morris 85pts.
Ladies' Round Robin Par Competition Winner: N Hughes +3. Runner-up: G Davies +1.
November Medal Division
1: R Phillips 74 net (cb); J Line 74 net. Division 2: C Wilkinson 73 net; S McMahon 76 net. Division 3: K Andrew 72 net (cb); D Davies 72 net (cb).
MILE END
October Medal Division 1: D Birch 76-10-66; D Smith 79-12-67; K Davies 72-5-67. Division 2: I Beckett 84-17-67; T Alcock 87-19-68; M Ryan 87-19-68. Division 3: B Hunter 86-21-65; N Waters 86-20-66; A Cawley 88-20-68.
Ladies' November Medal Division 1: D Bradbury 88-17-71; R Jones 94-19-75; A Ord 92-13-79. Division 2: J Tinsley 103-30-73; C Slater 100-25-75; J Bennett 104-28-76.
November Stableford Division 1: D Birch 43pts; K Davies 39pts; P O'Connor 37pts. Division 2: K Evans 39pts; B Moody 38pts; P Griffiths 38pts. Division 3: S Lewis 45pts; S Shum 39pts; B Davies 37pts.
Nine Hole Social Winners: N Tomlinson, D Bradbury, P Cattaneo 42pts. Runners Up: J Turner, B Jones, A Eke 41pts.
OSWESTRY
Four Ball Better Ball Stableford: S Griffiths (4.0) & D James (6.7) 44pts; O Huxley (2.4) & P Huxley (14.3) 43pts; T Jones (9.5) & M Jones (6.4) 42pts (cb); D Hopton & R Probert 42pts; D Thomas & W Rowley 41pts (cb).
November Winter Open: H Jones & T King 43pts (cb); J Hewitt & R Jones 43pts; D Moss & P Orr 42pts (cb); M Dickens & D Griffiths 42pts (cb); S Skelton & T Lewis 42pts.
Draw for Partners - Waltz 1-2-3 (Stableford) 18 holes: M Male, D Hall, S Baxter 65 points: A Davies, S Graham-Wood, B Wilson 60 points (cb); M Dickens & Green, M Landgrebe 57 points; 9 Holes: J Williams, J Taylor, A Gray 30 points; E Aubrey, E Moss, A Colquhoun 29 points; M Evans, B Bebbington, V Griffiths 26 points.
THE BROW
Winter League round four: T Brough 28pts; K Abbott 27pts (cb); P Shore 27pts; B Stuttard 26pts; R Strange 25pts (cb); I Davies 25pts.

Wales U18 call-up for TNS three

THREE academy players from The New Saints - James Jones, Andy Wycherley and James Papirnyk - have been selected to represent the Wales under-18 Academies representative squad.
In all, some 17 youngsters from Welsh Premier League clubs have been called up and will meet up over this weekend in preparation for two international fixtures to be played in South Wales in February 2015.
The team will be managed by Port Talbot Town head of youth, Mark Pike, who said: "These matches are an excellent opportunity for players who have come through the FAW Academy system to play international football in the red of Wales."
"We have already seen players like Ryan Hedges and Aaron Hassell play at this level, before being resigned by Swansea City and Leicester City respectively."
"They are now both with Premier League clubs, so the aim of this squad is to put more of the excellent young academy players in the shop window."



The Ellesmere College pupils who struck gold at Pentathlon GB Biathlon

New Saints survive early scare to progress in cup

Caernarfon Town 2 The New Saints 3
HOLDERS The New Saints survived an early scare to progress into the fourth round of the Welsh Cup with a hard-fought 3-2 passage at lower league outfit Caernarfon Town.
In an eventful first half, an upset looked to be on the cards as the Welsh Premier fliers found themselves two goals down before scoring three times in eight minutes through Mike Wilde, Chris Marriott and Jamie Mullan to take an interval lead.
That was how the scoring stayed, but Caernarfon were always in the hunt in the second period, with the Saints relieved to navigate a tricky third round tie.
TNS boss Craig Harrison was naturally happy to progress against the Cymru Alliance title chasers, and praised the efforts of his side after conceding to Nathan Craig's deflected free kick and a terrific solo effort from Darren Thomas.
"This was one of the toughest ties we could have had, but we showed a lot of character and determination," he said.
"We really had to roll up our sleeves and work hard, and once we got the first goal back, I felt we could go on to win the game."
The Saints started well enough, but fell behind after just six minutes when Kai Edwards was penalised for a foul on the left edge of the box, and Nathan Craig's powerful free kick beat keeper Paul Harrison after deflecting off Wilde's back.
Saints continued to prove a threat going forward in a lively opening, with Marriott seeing a shot deflected just wide from 10 yards, but Caernarfon also went close on 20 minutes when a love drive from Thomas was blocked by Harrison's legs.
And it got even better for

REVITALISED St Martins are going from strength to strength after sweeping aside feisty Penncroft 6-0 to climb up to second in the West Midlands League division one.
The encounter was marred by a string of unsavoury incidents from the visitors who were fortunate to have just one player dismissed late on following verbal abuse at the female referee.
Penncroft's antics at Park Hall may have left a sour taste, but could not take the gloss off the Saints' display that further enhanced their title credentials as they prepare for Saturday's big top of the table showdown at home to leaders Bromyard (3pm).
Ryan Butcher's side newer looked back after going ahead after just five minutes when Dan Graham's 18-yard strike rebounded off a defender, with the forward following up to nod into the net.
That advantage was soon doubled when impressive left back Shin Miah curled a free kick into the net, and five minutes before the break the home side surged further ahead.
Sam Litchfield's strike was turned round

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

Caernarfon five minutes later when the lively Thomas left the defence in his wake with some neat footwork from halfway before crashing his shot from outside the box past Harrison.
The game was held up for five minutes after a wall collapsed behind the goal as the ecstatic Caernarfon fans spilled forward, with the delay in play allowing the Saints to take stock.
Substitute Sam Finley soon made his mark with a couple of strikes, one blocked and another well over the bar, but the North Wales hosts were also proving a threat on the break at the other end.
But the tie swung dramatically in favour of the Saints who showed some clinical finishing with three quick-fire goals before half-time to quieten the Canaries.
First, Chris Seargeant dinked a cross over the defence from the left in the 37th minute, the ball falling to Wilde who turned neatly to volley into the corner.
And Caernarfon were prised open moments later when Aeron Edwards broke towards the box, before Seargeant's backheel fell for Marriott who drilled his low shot into the net.
In a frantic finish, Saints sub Scott Quigley hit the post and had an effort disallowed for offside, while home keeper Pritchard denied Cieslewicz.
The Canaries staged a late onslaught, with sub Carl Owen having a shot cleared off the line by Aeron Edwards, but the Saints held firm to keep their flag flying in the cup.

Super showing sees St Martins hit six of best

the post by keeper Harry Radford, but he was not to be denied from the resulting corner taken by Miah as he nodded home. However, that was his last involvement in the game as he forced off after receiving a kick in his face for his efforts.
The Saints again had the ball in the net on half time when Jack Hughes slotted in from a Miah free kick, but his effort was harshly ruled out for offside.
The home side continued from where they left off in the second half, and went further in front on 52 minutes when more good work on the left from Shawn Melusi and Miah, saw the latter crossing to the far post for Adam Dwyer to convert.
Melusi and Miah continued to torment their visitors on the left, with Miah crossing for Mike Lloyd to net a fifth on 75 minutes.
And Miah completed a man-of-the-match display with his second two minutes from time when more good interplay with Melusi saw the left back tap in.
Meanwhile, second placed GOBOWEN CELTIC got back to winning ways in the Mercian Regional League division two with a 4-2 home success over Spalaig Britannia.

Ellesmere College students strike gold at GB Biathlon

THERE was plenty of Ellesmere success to celebrate when pupils from across the region competed in the Pentathlon GB West Midlands Biathlon Championships in Solihull.
Ellesmere College pupils followed up last year's success by claiming Gold in the Under 12 and Under 15 Girls team events and securing individual honours in the competition, which automatically qualifies the teams for both the British Modern Biathlon Championships and the British Schools' Modern Biathlon Championships.
There was team success in the Under 12s category for Eleanor Bainbridge, Esme Hughes and Caitlin Adams. Esme also won Gold in the individual competition and Eleanor achieved the Silver, which involved a 50 metre swim and

800 metre run. In the Under 12 Boys Individual competition Luke Warren beat off stiff opposition to win Silver.
In the Under 15 category Sunetra Chatterjee, Elinor Haworth and Shannon Davies secured the team Gold over a 200 metre swim and 1600 metre run, with points being awarded for each discipline.
Both teams now head to the national finals at the end of November which will also be held in Solihull.
Tom Rylands, Pentathlon coach, said: "We were so pleased to get a place in the national finals and all of the pupils have worked really hard training for this. Their achievement is unbelievable. Being the best in the region is tremendous and something they will never forget."

New sponsors for FC Oswestry Town



FC Oswestry Town's new club sponsors (from left) Jason Tyler, of Jason Tyler Financial Planning, with Town manager Nick Maguire Town and head coach Matt Williams. The club, who have made a favourable impression in their first season in the Mercian Regional League premier division, had no game last weekend, but are due to return to action at local rivals Weston Rhyn on Saturday as they look to stay among the leading pack.

Lavender a winner by two minutes

OSWESTRY'S Alison Lavender strode to another impressive victory in the second North Wales Cross Country League at St David's College, Llandudno, repeating her equally impressive victory in the first league race in Bangor.
She came home in 17.07 minutes and was over two minutes clear of her nearest rival Carl Hughes from Menai, with Wrexham's Emma Crowe third.
Oswestry Olympians were again second in the senior ladies race division one, to overall leaders Eryri, with a seven strong team also including Charlotte Jones who finished seventh and the first over 35, improving two places on the first race.
Club secretary Alison Tickner was the third scorer in 28th and 4th over 45 with T Brandon 30th and Susie Hancock 38th.
Oswestry had the distinction of providing the highest placed Shropshire runner in the mens race with Ollie Blake leading the way home in



Alison Lavender won again in the North Wales League seventh place, behind the winner Iolo Hughes from Menai.
Blake, who has recently been living in America, is back home now and it is great to see him back in local races.
He was well supported as the Oswestry team scored 100 points better than in the league's opening fixture to place 4th. Other leading Oswestry finishers were T. Gears 25th, T. Tansley 29th and I. Lowe 33rd.
Shrewsbury AC, third in the first league race, were

fifth this time led home by Richard Jones in 18th place and the first over 50.
The Shrewsbury club won the male masters team race with just 35 points and now lead the league after two races.
Oswestry were second on the day with 46 points and are now third overall with Buckley second.
Alan Hodgkiss from Telford AC was Shropshire's highest finisher in the men's over 70s race finishing 7th, whilst Oswestry's Tom Phillips was the first under-17 man home in 10th place.

OSWESTRY & BORDER CHRONICLE Thursday, December 4, 2014

| DIVISION 1 | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|------|------|---|--|--|
| P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | | | |
| Priorslee Lions A | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 17.5 | 7.5 | 9 | | |
| Wellington A | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 15.5 | 9.5 | 7 | | |
| Telford A | 5 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 13 | 12 | 6 | | |
| Newport A | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 12.5 | 12.5 | 5 | | |
| Oswestry A | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 12.5 | 12.5 | 5 | | |
| Shrewsbury A | 5 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 11.5 | 13.5 | 4 | | |
| Telford A | 4 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 8 | 12 | 2 | | |
| Ludlow A | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 4.5 | 15.5 | 0 | | |

| DIVISION 2 | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|------|------|---|--|--|
| P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | | | |
| Telford B | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 10 | 6 | | |
| Shrewsbury B | 4 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 12.5 | 7.5 | 6 | | |
| Church Stretton A3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 11.5 | 3.5 | 4 | | |
| Priorslee Lions B | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 12 | 5 | | |
| Telford B | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 14 | 5 | 4 | | |
| Postest B | 5 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 7.5 | 17.5 | 2 | | |
| Wellington B | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4.5 | 10.5 | 0 | | |

| DIVISION 3 | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|----|------|------|---|--|--|
| P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | | | |
| Church Stretton B6 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 18 | 6 | 11 | | | |
| Newport B | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 12 | 4 | 7 | | |
| Newport C | 5 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 10.5 | 9.5 | 6 | | |
| Telford C | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 7.5 | 8.5 | 3 | | |
| Oswestry B | 4 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 5.0 | 15.0 | 2 | | |
| Priorslee Lions C | 4 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 5.0 | 15.0 | 2 | | |
| Newport Jhrs | 5 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 15 | 1 | | |

Mercian Regional Football League

Premier Division

| P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Telford Jhrs | 11 | 10 | 1 | 35 | 8 | 31 |
| FC Hodnet | 14 | 8 | 4 | 28 | 38 | 22 |
| Whitchurch Alb | 12 | 8 | 2 | 31 | 17 | 26 |
| FC Oswestry T | 13 | 7 | 2 | 31 | 19 | 23 |
| Alcock | 14 | 6 | 4 | 32 | 21 | 22 |
| Well Arms Res | 13 | 6 | 3 | 26 | 20 | 21 |
| Shifnal Utd 97 | 13 | 5 | 3 | 28 | 19 | 20 |
| AFC B'north R | 13 | 6 | 0 | 24 | 37 | 18 |
| Childs Ercall | 13 | 4 | 5 | 35 | 26 | 16 |
| Prees | 14 | 4 | 3 | 27 | 32 | 15 |
| Ketley B Utd | 12 | 5 | 0 | 28 | 35 | 15 |
| Wroster Row | 10 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 27 | 22 |
| Madeley Sports 14 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 22 | 44 | 11 |
| Church Stretton 15 | 2 | 3 | 10 | 22 | 26 | 9 |
| Weston Rhyn | 9 | 0 | 9 | 4 | 62 | 0 |

DIVISION 1

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|-------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|
| AFC Brosley ... | 13 | 11 | 0 | 2 | 56 | 15 | 33 |
| Wrock Wood ... | 9 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 34 | 9 | 25 |
| D'ton Com SS... | 11 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 42 | 25 | 23 |
| Rock Rovers ... | 13 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 51 | 36 | 22 |
| Clee Hill Utd ... | 10 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 33 | 20 | 17 |
| Wrock Wd Jun. 15 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 26 | 37 | 17 | |
| Bishops Castle | 13 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 27 | 34 | 16 |
| Brown Clee | 11 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 23 | 35 | 15 |
| Oakengates R.... | 14 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 20 | 46 | 11 |
| Cleaverly | 12 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 24 | 43 | 10 |
| AFC Wellington... | 9 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 17 | 35 | 4 |
| Impact United... | 10 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 17 | 35 | 4 |

DIVISION 2

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|
| Highley MW | 14 | 12 | 0 | 2 | 62 | 13 | 36 |
| Gobowen Celtic | 13 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 30 | 23 | 28 |
| Stoke Heath | 11 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 51 | 22 | 25 |
| Belvidere | 13 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 29 | 25 | 23 |
| Shifnal Harriers | 14 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 32 | 34 | 23 |
| Spalford Brlt | 12 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 45 | 27 | 23 |
| Riverside | 13 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 41 | 25 | 18 |
| Albrighton Jun | 13 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 37 | 29 | 18 |
| AFC Brosley R | 13 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 31 | 20 | 16 |
| St Mt Village | 13 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 38 | 46 | 11 |
| Whitchurch AR | 13 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 22 | 47 | 8 |
| Lydney | 11 | 1 | 9 | 15 | 52 | 4 | |
| Denso | 13 | 0 | 13 | 7 | 151 | 0 | |

Darwin Glass & Glazing Wem & District Darts

| | P | W | L | F | A | Pts |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Hole In The Wall..... | 8 | 0 | 0 | 57 | 15 | 16 |
| Stanton Arms..... | 8 | 7 | 1 | 49 | 23 | 14 |
| Castle Hotel..... | 8 | 6 | 2 | 47 | 25 | 12 |
| Fox Inn..... | 8 | 5 | 3 | 49 | 23 | 10 |
| Prees Club..... | 8 | 5 | 3 | 38 | 34 | 10 |
| Dickin Arms..... | 8 | 5 | 3 | 36 | 36 | 10 |
| White Lion..... | 7 | 4 | 3 | 36 | 27 | 8 |
| Wem S & S..... | 8 | 2 | 6 | 31 | 41 | 4 |
| Wem Utd Serv..... | 8 | 2 | 6 | 21 | 51 | 4 |
| Red Castle..... | 7 | 1 | 6 | 19 | 44 | 2 |
| The Old PO..... | 8 | 1 | 7 | 20 | 52 | 2 |
| Wem CC..... | 8 | 1 | 7 | 20 | 52 | 2 |

Oswestry & District Dominoes League

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|----------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Keys | 9 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 35 | 19 | 15 |
| Penybont Inn | 9 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 33 | 21 | 15 |
| Ye Old Vaults | 9 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 31 | 23 | 11 |
| Horseshoe | 10 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 31 | 29 | 11 |
| Black Lion A | 9 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 33 | 21 | 10 |
| Station | 9 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 33 | 21 | 10 |
| Top White Lion | 9 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 29 | 25 | 10 |
| Black Lion B | 10 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 31 | 29 | 10 |
| White Lion | 9 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 26 | 28 | 10 |
| Cross Foxes | 10 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 30 | 30 | 9 |
| Bradford Arms | 9 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 26 | 28 | 8 |
| Black Horse | 9 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 23 | 31 | 7 |
| Lion | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 23 | 27 | 6 |
| Three Pigeons | 10 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 23 | 37 | 6 |
| Oak | 9 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 15 | 39 | 2 |

Wheatland Indoor Cricket

Division one: Albury 103-3 (M. Jones 25 n.o., M.Crawshaw 25 n.o., S.Jarrett 15), Cae Glas 99 (S.Evres 35, R.Nimantha 27, S.Jarrett 2-26). Albury won by 4 runs; Grasshoppers 88-5 (P.Eaton 24, Joe Yapp 21). Bomere Heath 37 (E.Davies 2-18, I.Simmons 2-7). Grasshoppers won by 51 runs; Willey 113-4 (M.Brown 29, S. Furber 19), Conover 85 (S.Dodds 2-4, R.Plant 2-11). Willey won by 31 runs.
Division two: Rough & Tumblers 76 (T.Davies 20, B.Chambers 2-20), Shelton 51-1 (Z.Mellor 24, Joe Yapp 21). Rough & Tumblers 15 n.o., B.Chambers 15 n.o., Shelton won by 5 wickets; Beacon 109 (J.Pugh 25 n.o., C.Cheshire 25 n.o.), Church Stretton 110-3 (G.Gurnams 21, E.Groom 19), Church Stretton won by 3 wickets.

DIVISION 1

| P | W | T | L | Pts |
|--------------|---|---|---|-----|
| Grasshoppers | 5 | 0 | 0 | 30 |
| Willey | 5 | 4 | 0 | 14 |
| Conover | 5 | 3 | 0 | 18 |
| Bomere Heath | 5 | 2 | 0 | 32 |
| Albury | 5 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Cae Glas | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 |

DIVISION 2

| P | W | T | L | Pts |
|------------------|---|---|---|-----|
| Shelton | 4 | 0 | 0 | 18 |
| Cound | 4 | 3 | 0 | 18 |
| Grove | 4 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Beacon | 5 | 2 | 0 | 32 |
| Rough & Tumblers | 5 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Church Stretton | 5 | 1 | 0 | 4 |

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Oswestry suffer
defeat in Plate
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Sponsor boost
for FC Oswestry
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OSWESTRY Sports Desk 01743 283301

www.oswestrychronicle.com

High-flying Guils can book spot in quarters

MIKE Parry looks for his Guilsfield side to maintain their winning mentality when they visit Llandrinod Wells in Saturday's Huws Gray Cup quarter-final.

The Guils make the trip in good spirits, having gone five points clear in second spot in the Cymru Alliance after last weekend's hard-fought 1-0 win at Rhayader Town.

"They have proved tough nuts to crack this term, eking out several fine results with late fightbacks and determined displays.

"Instead of hoping to win, we expect to win this season, and that has shown in the commitment and effort from the players," said manager Parry. "We've got a good squad, and players are playing for each other, pushing themselves that bit further."

Guilsfield, recent winners of the cup, may be fancied to progress against a Llandrinod side who have struggled since their promotion to the league this season. But Parry anticipates a tough test against their improving hosts who will also see the league cup as a welcome distraction.

Rugby side in no-show

OSWESTRY rugby club's big day at Granville Park suffered a downer when their opposition failed to show.

The Eagles invited several guests to mark the official opening of their refurbished clubhouse, before watching the first team's home clash with Moore in South Lancs and Cheshire Two.

They now visit lowly Aston-on-Mersey on Saturday, while the second string - are at home to Old Bedians in the North West League division four (south).

Umpire is on the up

CRICKET official Anthony Harris took another step towards the top after being voted umpire of the year in the Birmingham League.

The 40-year-old from Oswestry, the premier division's youngest umpire, has also been selected for the ECB Emerging Umpires Accreditation Programme in Loughborough, meaning he is just one step away from the First Class reserve list.

Saints look to open gap

COACH Carl Darlington says The New Saints are "on the crest of a wave" as they aim to extend their lead at the top of the Welsh Premier at home to GAP Connah's Quay on Friday night (7.45).

Despite dropping points of late, the Saints still hold a commanding nine point lead at the top, and victory would take them 12 points clear of their rivals who all play the following day.

Few would argue against the league leaders who have a dominant home record against Quay, with 15 wins and just one defeat, while scoring 10 goals in the last two meetings between the sides at Park Hall.

"We're still unbeaten, and we've got a lot of self belief at the moment," said Dar-

lington. "We're in the final of one cup, in the last 16 of another, and also top of the league, so we're on the crest of a wave."

"But we know we're up there to be shot down, there is extra motivation for teams to be the first to beat us this season, so that's something we've got to handle if we're going to keep the run going."

Saints defender Steve Evans, who is on loan with GAP, will not face his own club under the agreement with their Welsh Premier rivals.

■ TNS under-19s have been drawn away to Cardiff City academy in the quarter-finals of the FAW Youth Cup. The Saints progressed to the last eight with a 2-1 home verdict against GAP Connah's Quay.

Morda row rumbling on

MORDA United's fight to play in Welsh football is in limbo as the row rages on.

The Weston Road club left the Mercian Regional League last season, hoping to play across the border in the Montgomeryshire League.

But the FA and its counterpart the FA of Wales insist the club cannot be involved in Welsh football as they are situated in England, despite the likes of Trefonen and south Shropshire side Newcastle both playing across the border in their respective leagues in Wales.

Morda are refusing to throw in the towel, having lodged an appeal, while league secretaries are also fighting their corner.

Bernie Jones, the Montgomeryshire

League secretary, is fuming at the FA and FAW over what he feels is a gross injustice.

"Two years ago Trefonen were given permission to compete cross border as the FA recognised the club's geography and close association with Wales and Montgomeryshire," he said.

"How can it be fair two years on an identical case has seen Morda barred when a precedent has clearly been set. I have been disgusted by the handling of this affair."

Newcastle were in a similar plight when told two years ago they could no longer play in Wales as they were based across the border in south Shropshire. However, they won an appeal and continue to play in the Mid Wales League south.

Llanfair looking to maintain fine form

LLANFAIR United boss Rhys Stephens hailed his side's self belief after marching on at the top of the Spar Mid Wales League division one.

The league leaders take a break from league action to visit Penybont in the first round of the league cup on Saturday, but remain seven points clear at the top following their 5-2 win over Four Crosses at the Mount.

But the success was not without its alarms, with Llanfair two goals down after 15 minutes before hitting back to win 5-2 to maintain their unbeaten league form.

"To be 2-0 down after 15 minutes, you've got to be concerned as it was a shocking start," admitted Stephens. "If that had happened last season, I don't think we would have come back. But we have a lot more spirit this year, the players are more streetwise and are showing a fantastic inner belief."

"Although we are unbeaten in the league, we've had to come from behind in a number of games. It was another massive three points."

Defeat made it a disappointing last few weeks for Four Crosses who will be glad to see the back of November.

They will look to get back to winning ways in the league at home to struggling Aberystwyth University on Saturday (1pm), with manager Nick Popyk again left to rue having a depleted side.

"Again we were under strength against Llanfair and it has been the story of our season," he said.

The Spar Mid Wales Cup takes centre stage this weekend with club's embarking on the first round, with Waterloo at Abermule and Welshpool visiting Churchstoke.

Full cup fixtures
Friday: Berriew v Kerry, Saturday: Aberaeron v Builth Wells, Abermule v Waterloo, Bont v Penryncoch, Borth Utd v Bow Street, Carno v Dyffryn Barw, Churchstoke v Welshpool, Hay St Mary's v Llansantffraid Village, Knighton v Montgomery, Newbridge v Tywyn Bryncrug, Penybont v Llanfair Utd.

VILLAGERS SAVOUR SUPER CUP DRAW

AFTER writing a new chapter in club history, Llanrhaeadr are savouring the chance of another Welsh Cup adventure after landing a plum fourth round tie at home to Rhyl.

Two early goals from Iwan Matthews took the villagers into the last 16 of the national cup competition for the first time with a 3-0 success at Afan Lido, and now their sights are set on shocking the Seaside from the Welsh Premier.

The Spar Mid Wales League division one side may have home advantage, but still know they will be firm underdogs against an established Rhyl team who are expected to arrive with a vast army of support.

Llanrhaeadr are already guaranteed £2,500 in prize money for reaching the fourth round, which would increase to a minimum of £6,000 should they pull off an upset and reach the last eight.

Chairman Phil Roberts admits it will be a famous day for the village club, with the tie likely to attract plenty of interest when it is played on Saturday, February 7 next year.

Fantastic

"It's going to be fantastic for the village, everyone's talking about it even now," he said. "We know it's going to be a tall order, but you never know what can happen on the day."

"There's already a lot of interest with their goal-keeper (Alex Ramsay, ex-TNS) going out with a girl from the village. He hangs out there, so I'm sure people will be winding him up."

"But it's just great to still be involved in the cup in the last 16. We've certainly never been this far, so it's an historic time for the club."

Rhyl, who are current-

ly lying third from bottom in the Welsh Premier, had to struggle before seeing off lower league side Goytre United 2-1 in the last round, so there is a glimmer of hope for Llanrhaeadr.

The sides met in Mid Wales a few years back in the Cymru Alliance, with the Seaside runners up 2-1 winners, and Roberts believes the villagers will again give a good account of themselves.

They are currently on a fine run that has brought eight wins on the bounce, and will relish the tie under boss Mark Griffiths who took charge this season.

"We had a bit of blip at the start of the season when Mark was settling in, but he has done a great job," said Roberts. "There's a fantastic spirit, and the changing room is a great place to be."

While their appetising Welsh Cup date awaits next year, Llanrhaeadr have more immediate matters when they host Kinnel Bay in Saturday's delayed FAW Trophy fourth round tie.

The first meeting between the sides a couple of weeks back was postponed

due to a waterlogged pitch after heavy rain left standing water on the surface.

Elsewhere in the draw, holders THE NEW SAINTS have a favourable home tie with Welsh National League side Gresford Athletic.

"To be drawn at home against a lower league team obviously gives us a good chance, but we don't care who we play if we're at home," said Saints coach Carl Darlington.

Gresford, who accounted for Llanfair United in the second round, ran out 3-0 home winners against St Asaph to set up their tie with the Saints.

Mid-Wales rivals Caersws and Newtown have been paired together in a cracking fourth round derby at the Bluebirds' Recreation Ground.

The sides were regular adversaries in the Welsh Premier, but have not met for a number of seasons after Caersws dropped down to the Cymru Alliance.

The draw: Caersws v Newtown, Cardiff Met University v Airbus UK, Gap Connah's Quay v Bala Town, Caerau Ely v Carmarthen Town, Llanrhaeadr v Rhyl, TNS v Gresford Athletic, Bangor City v Conwy Borough, Holywell Town v Aberystwyth Town.

Will riding high with Mexico trip



Ellesmere College pupil Will Edwards, who is off to the World Championships
A young Shropshire horse rider has qualified for the Children on Horses World Championships.

Will Edwards a pupil at Ellesmere College was the only home nation athlete to qualify for the FEI Children's International Classic Final to be held in Valle de Bravo (Mexico) from the January 26-31 2015.

The final is unique in format, in respect of the fact that the host nation will provide all the horses for the competition. Bringing two horses to the final, a draw takes place to identify which of their two horses they are to ride.

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